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16 July 1979  
(FOUO 22/79)

## Japan Report



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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## JAPAN REPORT

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXPERT DEPLORES FUTURE OF JAPANESE DIPLOMACY

Tokyo BUNGEI SHUNJU in Japanese May 79 pp 300-313

[Text] Japan's diplomacy has lacked vision in recent years. There appears to be little willingness and effort to plan on a grand scale Japan's route with a view to the future. The result is that it has been pointed out by many countries that, since Japan has a position as a major economic power but has no policy worthy of a major power, there is a lack of a positive diplomatic posture.

It is thought that this is because of Japan's easygoing thinking pattern of "oh, this is fine" has become set, since Japan has become used to U.S. protection under the Japan-U.S. security treaty and that has contributed greatly to our economic development.

Opting for security was proper. History proves that the San Francisco accord agrees with our national prosperity. Despite this, the opposition parties, such as the Socialist Party, are advocating even now the cancellation of the security treaty. But this is quite anachronistic; actually, they have been derided and embarrassed by Deng Xiaoping who said: "To say the treaty is incongruous is incongruous."

In the fall of 1972, when Tanaka, prime minister at that time, went to Beijing and held private talks with Premier Zhou Enlai, Premier Chou made the following private comments upon indicating his understanding of the security treaty. "When a representative of your country's Socialist Party explained to me that Japan must strictly observe an open neutrality, I responded that this was an illusion, equivalent to daydreaming. He seemed deeply disappointed and, when he was leaving, he implored that I absolutely do not disclose this to the Japanese people."

It is not an honor for Japan to have its main opposition party put to such shame.

Premier Zhou related: U.S.-Japan relations are essentially important for Japan, and it is alright to give Japan-China relations second priority. China is satisfied with that." Vice Premier Deng stated the same opinion. To put it another way, a reason China respects Japan is the closeness of U.S.-Japan

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relations; and if Japan were to pull away from the U.S., it is certain that China's estimation of Japan would suddenly fall.

2. Asia's stability is grounded in the balance of power of four countries---the U.S., the USSR, China and Japan. In the actual post-Vietnam state of affairs, the U.S. is withdrawing, China is floundering and the USSR, taking advantage of this, is advancing.

It is clear that the U.S. is in a mood to withdraw, if we look at the withdrawal of U.S. troops stationed in Korea. This is an extension of the Nixon Doctrine (1969) of withdrawing ground troops from Asia. The U.S. emphasizes that it will maintain a military, political and economic presence in Asia, but this is only rhetoric. President Carter's State of the Union message (January 23) indicated the posture of throwing all energy into the control of inflation; this is aimed at domestic affairs. The national consciousness is conspicuous in its self-centeredness of "me first." There is a latent nostalgia for isolationism in this undercurrent. The U.S., which is a world power, cannot revert to a simplistic isolationism; there is no longer a willingness to dispatch ground troops into an Asian dispute.

Consequently, the U.S. military power left in Asia is mainly the navy, and U.S. policy is to counteract Soviet advances by means of a naval strategy. But the navy cannot directly control land actions; also, even though it has the ability to move around, it is impossible for it to be in two different seas at the same time. Since the Middle East situation is in a crisis, the Seventh Fleet will probably split up and move into the Indian Ocean. But with that, they will become short-handed in the Pacific area. Moreover, the Soviet Pacific Fleet is superior to the U.S. fleet.

The U.S. traditionally attached more importance to Europe than to Asia. Secretary Brown's report on national defense (January 25) began by stating its usual policy on Europe as the priority. It smacked of treating Asia lightly.

As was understood from the wall poster offensive in Beijing in the middle of November 1978---Deng Xiaoping clearly arranged this---China's political situation is unsettled. The result of a retrospective assessment of the Tiananmen incident and the self-criticism of Premier Hua Guofeng is that Deng Xiaoping became the "number one" influential person. But the remaining power of the Cultural Revolution faction cannot be ignored. It is said that during the Cultural Revolution, there were 15 million who rushed to join the party; 1.2 million were charged and arrested by the "gang of four," but of those, 140,000 hid underground (secret report from Ye Jianying). Perhaps there will be a power struggle between the business faction led by Deng and the Hua-led faction which benefited from the Cultural Revolution.

The only thing is, since Deng's earnest desire is to push modernization, he has resorted to a political truce with the slogan "stability and unity" as compensation for getting carte blanche for modernization. In summary, China's



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situation will flow through various stages for some time. That is, it is still floundering. Contrary to the U.S. and China, which are withdrawing and floundering, the USSR is advancing. Although the USSR is essentially an European power, it has intervened in Africa and has infiltrated the Middle East. In addition, it concluded a friendship treaty with Vietnam in November, 1978. This became the springboard for Vietnam's attack on Cambodia. If Hanoi secures its control of the Indochinese peninsula, it would compound the China-USSR dispute and subtle changes would take place in the power balance of Asia. The reason Chinese troops charged into Vietnamese territory (February 17) on the pretense of a punishment strategy was because of its honor; but it was also probably aimed at a restoration of the balance of power.

When the Baltic fleet of Tsarist Russia invaded the Japan Sea, it called at port in Madagascar and Cam Ranh Bay (South Vietnam). A well-informed source has observed that there is a probability the USSR will secure naval bases at those two ports and at Cambonsom (Cambodia). The Soviet fleet has actually entered Danang Harbor. Likewise, it is a mystery why the U.S. is optimistic about the situation in Asia since it seems there will be no quick, positive results in the North Korea-South Korea talks on the Korean peninsula, which just began again after four years.

In any case, it is a natural course of events for the U.S. and China to become close in order to counteract Soviet advances. And it is an historic event for China to terminate its 30 year old alliance with the USSR and enter a cooperative relationship with the U.S., which it had denounced as a papier-mache tiger.

3. The restoration of U.S.-China diplomatic relations was realized more quickly than was generally expected. But this is because China showed flexibility in its wooing of the U.S. The British writer, R.L. Stevenson, said: "It takes two for a kiss." But, in this instance, it was clearly China who did the wooing. The chief negotiator was Vice Premier Deng, just as it was with the Japan-China peace and friendship treaty; he made unexpected concessions (so much so that it surprised U.S. and Japanese authorities) in order to promote modernization. The magnitude of the concessions indicates the depth of Deng's tenacity of purpose toward modernization. Of course, China calculated using anti-hegemony to restrain the USSR. Actually Deng, while visiting the U.S., repeatedly emphasized the necessity of a union of the U.S., China, Japan and Europe against the USSR. The U.S. tried hard to ease Soviet concerns about newspaper reports on joint statements after the Carter-Teng talks. Nevertheless, the USSR protested strongly. The U.S. can hold the USSR in check by winning over China, but it would be upset at any rupture in their relations with the USSR for that reason. Therefore, they can only use their China card within limits, not sacrificing U.S.-USSR relations. In other words, they want to reach an early agreement on SALT (Strategic Arms Limitations Talks) on which there is already 90 percent agreement.

Three days after Chinese troops attacked Vietnam, President Carter stated the U.S. would not intervene in a dispute between Communist countries, and ex-

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pressed his enthusiasm for a SALT agreement. Chairman Brezhnev requested an urgent completion of SALT (March 3), although he continued to criticize China and defend Vietnam. The only thing is, although SALT was signed, ratification by the U.S. Congress is expected to be stormy---the conservatives gained strength after last fall's off-year election. Indications are that Carter considered the efficacy of appeasing those groups in Congress who are uncompromising toward the USSR. For that reason, he put the restoration of U.S.-China diplomatic relations ahead of the SALT signing. On this point, it was an invaluable asset for the President that Deng strongly implied that he would not undertake a military liberation of Taiwan.

In summarizing Deng's U.S. visit, my feeling is that the leading actor behind the talks between the U.S. and China heads of government was the USSR, and the actor in the wing was Japan. With the establishment of U.S.-China diplomatic relations, following upon the Japan-China peace and friendship treaty, the line-up of Japan, the U.S. and China made its appearance in Asia. Japan's foreign affairs authorities do not want to recognize it, but when one looks at the dynamics of diplomacy, it is difficult to deny an anti-Soviet cooperation structure has been built by these three countries. At least, the USSR has interpreted it so and will not acquiesce to it, no matter how much Japan justifies it.

Vice Premier Deng visited Tokyo again on his way back from the U.S. and explained the necessity of punishing Vietnam. He commented that the USSR must be confronted because Vietnam's attack on Cambodia was instigated by the USSR. China is afraid of being dominated both from the north, the USSR, and from the south, an Indochinese Federation under the control of Vietnam. But Japan did not follow suit on China's plan; together with the U.S., Japan called for self-restraint on China's part. Even though it was ineffective, there is reason for the USSR to assess Japan's posture in light of this act. Nevertheless, the USSR did not stop its criticism that Japan supported "China's aggression." To that extent, it seems they are tortured by a vision of a Japan-U.S.-China alliance.

To be sure, just as Vice Premier Deng said, the USSR maneuvered so that China would clash with Vietnam, and, in doing so, China's image would be hurt. Also, the USSR might have planned to enlarge Vietnam's dependence on the USSR. If so, it will probably be difficult for Japan to continue its assistance to Vietnam and to mediate a China-Vietnam reconciliation.

Be that as it may, it is extremely unrealistic for Japan (conceptually addicted as ever to pacifism) to think that it would suffice to hoist up empty slogans of a diplomacy geared to all points of the compass.

Public opinion in Japan greatly welcomed the restoration of U.S.-China diplomatic relations, saying it would further stability in Asia. But there are indications that the restoration of U.S.-China diplomatic relations made it easier for China to attack Vietnam. Apart from that, we must reflect deeply on what influence the U.S.-China rapprochement will exert on Japan's future.

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The leading actor in the restoration of U.S.-China diplomatic relations was presidential adviser Bzrezinski. He said: "it had been inevitable for a long time that the U.S. would choose either China or Japan, but now we are in the position of regarding both Japan and China as allies." (January 15) He said it with a look of great delight. As he is an advocate of a Japan-U.S.-Europe tri-polar committee---the fourth general meeting will be held in Tokyo in April---he places great importance on Japan. There is the possibility that in the long run the three poles will develop into four poles with the addition of China. Though, the U.S.---and Japan also---cannot support it if it means anti-Soviet alliance.

U.S. policy on Asia perhaps will give priority ranking to Japan for a while. But if Japan continues with a useless posture as at present, there is the probability that China will be given preference over Japan in the future. We should consider that it will not be too long before China, instead of Japan, plays first violin in the U.S. conducted orchestra. President Carter has denied this will happen (to NIKKEI President Onoki). According to a Gallup poll last fall, 43 percent of the intellectuals already consider China "the important partner in Asia for the U.S.," and 38 percent, Japan. China is contributing to NATO security by freezing 43 Soviet divisions in the Far East ---one-fourth of all its military forces. If modernization progresses, China will occupy an even greater relative importance in U.S. strategy in Asia. It is clear that such a calculation worked at the time of normalization. However, our country has not contributed at all to restraining the USSR. Japan's huge excess of exports in U.S.-Japan trade still continues---in 1978, it was 11.6 billion dollars, equal to 41 percent of the entire U.S. trade deficit. Japan-U.S. relations have become strained again just before the Tokyo summit in June. Even though the U.S. and Western Europe think Japan has neglected its defense duties, along with the increase in Japan's economic power, it is certain that antagonistic feelings will escalate against a continuation of Japan's export aggression. Soon the U.S. may choose China over Japan. In that case, we must know that part of the responsibility will be Japan's. Without thinking that far, it is too flippant to welcome emotionally the restoration of U.S.-China diplomatic relations.

The U.S. broke relations with Taiwan upon restoration of diplomatic relations with China. Even though Taiwan was a faithful ally of the U.S., Taiwan was simply cut down. It is meaningless to criticize their betrayal of trust or their heartlessness. Diplomacy is unfeeling and treaties lose their reason for continuing when circumstances change completely. There is the sarcastic witticism that "treaties are made to be broken." It cannot be said that the U.S.-Japan security treaty alone is the exception.

4. At present, the only adversary threatening Japan is the USSR. From the time of its conclusion to the present, the main concern of the U.S.-Japan security treaty has always been the USSR. It is necessary to recognize this point clearly.

The world is controlled militarily by the two systems of the U.S. and the USSR. These two countries are totally different in their views on war.

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The U.S. thinks that, due to the appearance of nuclear weapons, an all-out war, which would invite mutual suicide, will no longer occur and peace will be maintained if U.S. and USSR nuclear weapons demonstrate the effect of restraining each other. Consequently, supremacy over the USSR is not necessary; there is a "sufficiency" of military capability to restrain the USSR.

The USSR believes that the appearance of nuclear weapons does not change in the least long-established principles of strategy; war can happen, especially from their perspective that supporting a people's liberation would be a just war. It has to ensure a supremacy in nuclear capability in order to restrain the U.S.

In short, the U.S. is satisfied with mutual restraint, but the USSR wants a unilateral check on the U.S. The U.S. negates war, the USSR affirms it. Actually, for more than the past ten years, the USSR has invested one billion dollars annually to strengthen its defense installations in case of nuclear war, but, after having done almost nothing, the U.S. finally expended 100 million dollars last year. If a U.S.-USSR war should occur, it is estimated that U.S. fatalities would exceed 100 million, the USSR, less than 10 million. It goes without saying that, in diplomatic negotiations, it will profit the country which is determined war will occur (USSR) rather than the country which has determined war will not occur (U.S.). A good example is the Munich conference on the eve of the outbreak of World War II. Chamberlain shunned war, but Hitler was resolved to go to war. We should not forget the Munich lesson. It is dangerous to think that war has been banished because of nuclear weapons. The U.S. and USSR had a serious confrontation at the time of the Cuba crisis in 1962 and in the 1973 Middle East war, when the USSR tried to send in paratroopers to rescue Egypt, the U.S. ordered its entire military on alert and prevented it. I happened to be in Washington, and Secretary of State Kissinger said: "This is a much more serious confrontation than the Cuba crisis." Both the Japanese government and Japanese people usually overestimate U.S.-USSR co-existence. Actually, it is not that smooth.

To synthesize the research from various perspectives, it seems that the USSR nuclear capability will become more powerful than that of the U.S. in about 5-7 years. Dr. Kissinger has warned that the "maximum peril" will be reached in about 1982. (Economist, February 3) This almost coincides with the investigation of the British Strategic Research Institute which conjectures that the apex of Soviet military capability will be reached in 1983-85. In the past, the Nazis struck out as soon as their military power was completely ready. Because, if they had missed that opportunity, they would have become inferior to the power of the U.S.-UK-France alliance. The same psychology might drive the USSR to a risky undertaking. They may not provoke a war, but there is sufficient possibility they might use their superior military power politically and try a pressure diplomacy.

Some well-informed persons have observed that there is the probability that, after overcoming China and ridding themselves of that worry, they would advance on Western Europe. The Soviet Union would like to disrupt China's

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modernization, but, according to authoritative research, the period 1982-85 seems to be the period during which success or failure for China's modernization will be determined. It is uncanny that their period overlaps the period in which Soviet military power will reach its maximum.

But, the Kremlin's pressure is not limited to China. It is feared that Japan will be their target. I would like to ask the foreign affairs authorities what they intend to do in such a case.

During the short interval after the fall of Saigon (Spring 1975), the USSR established a pro-Soviet political power in Angola and Ethiopia by air-transporting Cuban troops there. Besides intervening twice in Zaire, they succeeded in their plan for a coup d'etat in both Afghanistan (April 1978) and South Yemen (June 1978). Not only have they brought Cambodia under their control by supporting Vietnam (January 1979), and not only have they extended their power over Indochina, but they also have thrown Iran into turmoil and overthrown the pro-U.S. shah. These are territories that have no direct connection with Soviet security, but they are surely critical to their situation, when looked at from the geopolitics perspective.

Last fall, I participated as Japan's representative in the Aspen, Colorado seminar. I lived together for several days with my old friend, Dr George Kennan (ambassador to the USSR and Yugoslavia), who is regarded as an authority on Soviet questions. As reported in his recent work, "Cloud of Danger," his analysis is that, besides the fact that Soviet armaments have defense as their primary objective, the present leadership does not want to take any risks since they have experienced the disasters of war and also since they are all old men---the average age is 67. He is supporting talks with the Soviet Union. My opinion is somewhat different, but I am in complete agreement with the judgment that Party Secretary Brezhnev has been in the seat of political power for 14 years, and, since he is 72 and plagued by illness, and because it is clear he has reached his limits, the relentless power struggle has already begun in the inner halls of the Kremlin. Moreover, Kennan said that in such instances, there is a fear that perhaps the KGB will run loose, and become independent. He related past instances of that. Actually speaking, this is a thundercloud in the international political situation. Both Kennan and I worked as ambassadors to Yugoslavia, and we are in mutual agreement that after Tito's death (he is 87 years old), internal politics there will not escape turmoil. And at that time, even though the Kremlin is cautious, there is the possibility that the KGB will run independently and that will detonate a great international crisis. At that time, war or peace will be determined by how the U.S. copes with the situation.

5. The aim of Soviet diplomacy with Japan is to hammer into the heads of the Japanese the feeling of powerlessness toward the USSR. In the fall of 1976, there was the incident of the MIG-25 which flew into Japan. In the spring of 1977, there were negotiations on fishing rights. And even now there is the complicated dispute on the north territories---in all of these, the USSR has shown an overbearing attitude.

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When Foreign Minister Sonoda arrived in Moscow last January and raised a question on the north territories, the USSR rejected it with the statement that they are already resolved. And Premier Kosygin stated that he wanted Japan-USSR relations to be like the USSR-Finland relationship. While Finland is a small country, it has a courageous people who severely harrassed and fought off the attacks of the Soviet army which formerly invaded it. But now, although it is an independent country, it has been absorbed into the Soviet sphere of influence and its destiny is controlled. Kosygin just stated what the Kremlin feels, letting out the truth unwittingly. Kosygin has to know that Finlandization has become an international term. In spite of that, he had no reservations about speaking with such insensitivity. Isn't that evidence of underrating Japan very much?

The north territories are Japan's own territory, which the USSR, taking advantage of the confusion at the time of the end of the war, extorted from Japan. And also, they have no scruples about avowing---to Yohei Kono, representative of the Shin-jiyu Club---they will not return the two islands of Hapomai and Shikotan, which they had promised to return in a Japan-USSR joint declaration. Moreover, recently they built military bases and stationed one brigade each on both islands of Kunashiri and Etorogu. When the Ministry of Foreign Affairs registered a protest with their Tokyo ambassador (February 5), IZVESTIYA reported that the USSR is free to do what it wants with its own territory. This action was taken to counteract the Japan-China peace and friendship treaty, besides being a retort for Japan not to interfere in Soviet internal affairs.

The situation having come to this point, public opinion has finally gone against this. The Diet passed a resolution (February 15) to demand the withdrawal of military forces from both islands. I don't understand the reason. The USSR built new bases on Kunashiri island, which is very near to Hokkaido ---only 30 kilometres. But their main purpose was to secure the Okotsuku Sea as an area to station their SLBM---their most important fighting power against the U.S. It doesn't necessarily follow that they are advancing bases to attack Japan. But surely it is in their mind to reinforce effective control of these four north islands with this opportunity, and thereby give the coup de grace to Japan's demands for the return of the islands.

The USSR is clearly and directly emphasizing a strategic offensive in Asia, but, on the other hand, they are eager to develop Siberia. And so they are maneuvering from all directions to get Japan to offer capital and technology. They know how to use the face of an ogre when it comes to the north territories and a smiling face when it comes to Siberian development. That is asking a lot. Even though cooperation on Siberian development may be good, if worst comes to worst concerning Japan's investment which already totals 1.5 billion dollars, the USSR may keep it hostage, depending on the future situation, and use it as a diplomatic pressure. Also, if Japan depends too much on Soviet oil supplies, isn't there the fear that oil could be suspended unilaterally for political purposes? As for the Number 2 Siberian railroad, perhaps it will provoke anxiety in China. Japan's financial circles should not

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make a failure of the situation, by being too carried away in their pursuit of a profit. I have heard that certain influential quarters are suggesting that it is alright to negotiate a good neighbor friendship treaty, which the USSR advocates, alongside of a peace treaty. But that is a most improper, unreasonable viewpoint. A good neighbor friendship treaty is incompatible with the Japan-U.S. security treaty. And also, Soviet aircraft are constantly threatening Japan's territorial skies. The number of JIEITAI (Self-Defense Forces) scrambles was 500. Really, is this consistent with good neighbor friendship?

Foreign Minister Sonoda stated in his speech on diplomacy to the Diet (January 25), "while we are developing cooperative relations in business affairs between Japan and the USSR, it is necessary to have many talks to promote mutual understanding and mutual trust." Prime Minister Ohira has stated that "we will strive to improve the relationship, including the territorial problem by an increasing number of intimate talks." (January 29, Budget Committee) The thing both sides have in common is an enthusiastic attitude on restoring relations. Perhaps, they are creating a diplomatic program for Japan and the USSR after Japan-China diplomacy. That is fine.

I also strongly hope for an improvement in Japan-USSR relations, but since it is the USSR who worsened the relations, the responsibility of restoring relations belongs primarily to the USSR. Despite that, there are foreign reporters who point out that it strikes them as strange that Japan's voice for development of cooperative relations is louder than the Soviet Union's. Japan's government appears to be too timid toward the USSR.

Actually speaking, the USSR is not as powerful a country as it might appear externally. Its military capability is powerful, but if one is unreasonably fearful of that, one plays right into the hands of the Kremlin and is clearly taken advantage of.

The Soviet economy is retarded, and experts have recognized that the present tenth Five-year Plan cannot attain its goals. Since the economic system in a Marxist plan---a command rather than a plan---gets completely tied up in a labyrinth, it is most difficult to breathe in new life. I visit Moscow rather frequently, and although the increase in automobiles and tall buildings is notable, dissatisfaction has increased in the citizenry. Because although the desire for consumption is flourishing, there is a shortage in the supply of consumer goods. It is said that the people commonly lose 30 billion hours each year standing in queues to make their purchases. The popular joke in Moscow these days is that when an American reporter visits the home of an cosmonaut when both parents are absent, the cosmonaut's child says: "since papa has gone to the moon, he'll be home soon. But I don't know when mama will come home, because she's gone shopping." Because housing is inferior, one-third of all households are forced to live with several families; and since that invites a deterioration in sexual morality, ten percent of all births are illegitimate. Despite that, the privileged classes are resented by the masses, because the party leaders live in luxury.

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Despite this situation, military spending totals more than 13 percent of GNP. Also, it has been increasing by 5 percent for several years. It is unreasonable for the people's economy to bear twice the military expenditures with half the GNP of the U.S.

There is a more serious problem. The USSR is a multi-ethnic country. But since the Russians are monopolizing the power (the Russians hold ten of the thirteen Politburo positions and nine of the fourteen secretariat positions), the other nationalities are dissatisfied. However, since the Russian soviet is prospering, population is declining, and contrariwise, the other nationalities, who have a lower standard of living, will increase. In 20 years, the Russians will become a minority nationality, and the Moslems will hold one-third of the entire population. Unskilled workers will have been exhausted in the USSR, which suffers a shortage of workers, and that will interfere with the administration of the economy; productivity will fall to 2.5 percent (at present, 4 percent). Of all conscriptees into the military, 33 percent are non-Russians. Soviet authorities are worrying about this phenomenon of the "asianization" of the population.

In short, the USSR is involved in some serious difficulties. So we do not have to be pessimistic about prospects for the north territories. It is said that the possibility cannot be denied that the USSR will explode at the time their military power reaches its peak. And if the U.S. deals with that wisely, it can prevent it from happening. It would be advantageous for the free world if that time passes without incident. At any rate, only the U.S. can stave off any rash action by the USSR. We can look to nothing other than the protection of U.S. military power for a lightly armed Japan to defend its security.

6. Since the Japan-U.S. security treaty has protected Japan's security for nearly 30 years, Japanese public opinion finally has come to appreciate it. The rate of approval went from 44 percent in 1968 to 68 percent in 1978; and the rate of recognition for the JIEITAI (Self-Defense Forces) rose to 80 percent. But, if we ask whether we may be optimistic about present conditions, the answer is no.

The GNP for Japan and the U.S. at the time the security treaty was signed was four for Japan against 100 for the U.S. Therefore, Prime Minister Yoshida turned down Dulles' request for re-armament, saying "we cannot carry guns on empty stomachs." Now, since it is 50 to 100 and the yen has risen, the per capita GNP is nearly the same at 6800 dollars. However, although U.S. defense expenditures are 6 percent of GNP or 523 dollars per person, Japan is only 0.9 percent or 49 dollars per person (West Germany is 3.6 percent or 300 dollars.). Now, Japan, pushing ahead of the USSR, will become the number two major economic power in the world.

With that, because the U.S. people are still suffering stagflation and are screaming about Japan's export aggression, criticism of the security treaty has raised its head among the U.S. people who cannot understand why Japan, a



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great economic power, is so stingy in its defense expenditures and depends on the U.S. for its national defense. The undercurrent in U.S. ill-feeling toward Japan surrounding the recent trade imbalance is precisely this criticism. Among the representatives who visited Japan for the Japan-U.S. Legislators Symposium at the end of last year, there were some who severely criticized Japan.

Since this kind of state of affairs did not just happen suddenly, but was foreseen for a long time, the negligence of the politicians is responsible for it. If there are any sensible politicians, they should have known that the dissatisfaction of the U.S. people toward Japan would come gushing forth. Moreover, except for a minority, even conservative politicians avoided facing the defense question, considering it taboo. It was progress when former Prime Minister Fukuda first touched on the defense question in his speech on administrative policies, but our politicians are so indifferent to defense that that became big news.

In January of this year, the four heads of state of the U.S., UK, France and West Germany met on French Guadeloupe and conferred on world strategies. One of the main topics was the China question which accompanied restored U.S.-China relations. Despite this, Japan's Prime Minister was not invited. It is necessary to consider the reasons why not. First of all, Japan has little concern for defense and has no qualifications for participating because it has no defense capability. Secondly, because Japan has ideologically over-rated detente, there would be dissonance if Japan were invited. In short, it was judged that Japan's participation would be useless and detrimental. In other words, that is the same as judging Japan unqualified for international diplomacy. Our foreign affairs authorities seemed to think that it was natural not to be invited because it was a meeting to discuss problems common to Western Europe--so, unrelated to Japan. But it would be logical to invite Japan as a representative of Asia since China was the main topic. In fact, the four leaders held informal talks while relaxing at the beach in their swimming suits, each of them taking only one aide. It was fortunate Japan's prime minister wasn't invited, because he would have been lost completely in such a setting.

When I meditate on the reasons for not being invited, I think it is pitiful. Actually, just before the first industrialized nations' leaders' conference in Lambie (fall of 1975), U.S. and European leaders confirmed again the need to augment defense against the USSR. Things became complicated when Japan appeared on stage, applauding detente and causing disharmony. In short, that was like going to a "Go" club and trying to play "shogi" (Japanese chess). For Japan to enter into a truly cooperative relationship with the U.S.-European industrialized nations, we should rectify the discrepancies in our understanding of present circumstances and we must show some willingness toward defense. It is the duty of the foreign affairs authorities to lead politicians in that direction, but it is unfortunate that no effort has been made toward doing that.

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Of course, we must sympathize with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in many ways. Different from the past, nowadays politicians are appointed to the Foreign Ministry. And many of them are influential representatives of factions; so there is no feeling of comradeship in staff at the ministry. Moreover, diplomatic policy is a party policy, i.e., diplomatic policy is conceived in its factional dimensions, and in many instances the ministry officials are nothing more than an executive organ. At times, the prime minister goes over the heads of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. One example is when, at the beginning of the Lockheed incident, Prime Minister Miki sent a private letter to President Ford. It seems to have come from anxiety about internal politics, but I have heard the president was in a dilemma about such conduct since it was a very delicate problem.

In the spring of the previous year, when Saigon fell, the Asian nations complained about their apprehension concerning U.S. credibility. And Foreign Minister Miyazawa went hastily to the U.S. at the insistence of the Diet to demand a re-affirmation of the Japan-U.S. security treaty from U.S. authorities. This was tantamount to Japan confessing it was perturbed; the U.S. re-affirmed it without any objection. Was it even necessary to inquire, since it is hardly possible they would not affirm it? It is regrettable that Mr Miyazawa was used for such a mission because he is a real asset to the political world. Could not the ambassador in the U.S. have made this proposal? However, since Japan reminded the U.S. of it again after that, former Secretary of National Defense Ramsford, a close associate of the president, replied: "Japan obstinately demands affirmation of the U.S. duty toward Japan under the Japan-U.S. security treaty, but has the Japanese government affirmed its own national defense duty?" This is scathing sarcasm. In that, the U.S. has disclosed its thinking. It is the duty of the foreign affairs bureaucrats to have perceived the U.S. reaction in advance and to be careful so as not to have the U.S. harbor unnecessary ill-feeling toward Japan and, depending on the case, to severely admonish politicians.

Japan's mass communications media is excessively emotional. They are apt to be carried away by their emotions. Indulging in their self-made emotions, they often run to sensationalism. What ought to be self-disciplines becomes an emotional diplomacy. In the fall of 1972, it was only 50 days after taking office that Prime Minister Tanaka went to Peking and established Japan-China diplomatic relations. The mass media at that time became "overheated", saying "To Beijing, everything bends to Beijing."

Even though it was originally China who strongly wanted a quick restoration of diplomatic relations, China was quiet like a forest but Japan was like the waves in the sea whipped by fierce winds. That is clearly against one's own interests in negotiations. Even during the negotiations for the peace and friendship treaty in the summer of 1978, our mass media repeated day and night a loud chant demanding an early agreement. This was disgraceful because Japan was in a position of determining the pace of the negotiations and it was more necessary for China to conclude an agreement quickly. Moreover, since politicians from both the majority party and the opposition parties, along with businessmen, excitedly visited China, each with his own expectations made

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contact with China's top people. They introduced China's own opinions to Japan. As a result, it appeared they were loudspeakers for Beijing.

So the Ministry of Foreign Affairs limited negotiations to diplomatic channels and, fully realizing the need to eliminate any interference, reformed their old cautious attitudes and changed their plans for an early agreement. Only in Japan is there an "opposition party diplomacy," in which opposition party representatives issue joint statements. Although the intent is good, it destroys the pace and confuses formal negotiations. Therefore, foreign affairs authorities desire to centralize diplomacy. I understand the motives that planned their push for negotiations. The attitude toward the anti-hegemony clause changed because of that. They decided to recognize the published treaty text. There are those who say that the outcome was brandished about in China as a result of power politics.

That has also been expressed in the management of Japan-U.S. negotiations. There is the old adage on negotiations, "don't become too serious." Impatience is taboo in negotiations. Foreign Minister Sonoda is a resourceful, trustworthy and fine man, but it is said that he went to Beijing with a "do-or-die" spirit. That spirit does him justice but perhaps Talleyrand would cock his head at that. Sonoda is said to be a master fencer of Kendo (Japanese fencing), but diplomacy is not something one cuts his way into. Rather, it is more desirable to take on the mental attitude of judo which takes advantage of the opponent's strength.

Be that as it may, since China fortunately indicated a flexible posture, the new Japan-China treaty was mutually agreed to, in compliance with our opinions. I would like the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which achieved its earnest wish for centralized negotiations, to firmly establish its authority concerning other diplomatic matters.

7. Japanese foreign affairs officials are distinguished for their administrative ability and belong among the top-ranking in the world. But they are men of narrow vision. They lack vision. Because they succeed by means of seniority, as long as they fulfill the official responsibilities given them without any serious mistakes, it is easy for them to be imbued with an easy-going disposition. "The apprentice in an umbrella shop is scolded for breaking the umbrella bones"---it is safer not to have any vision. Therefore, they do not look beyond their own area of defense. They are insufficiently willing to raise questions. The result is that diplomatic strategy will not be forthcoming, even though there are diplomatic maneuvers.

When ministry officials go to a foreign country, they are able to have some room for enjoying life, but they are pressed into entertaining the large number of guests from Japan, starting with the Diet members, which has increased sharply due to the convenience of transportation. Thus, since they expend their energy managing current business, whether it be home office work or overseas work, they have no reserve energy for considering long-term policies. Also, it is possible that our overseas ambassadors, who are in the habit of taking action, after requesting instructions from home---they feel safe if

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they can keep their geta (shoes) at the home office---will fall into the symptom of stopping thinking altogether. Formerly, the elders, Nusahara, Yoshida, Shigemitsu and Togo, made an effort to induce improvement in the home office, by proposing their own opinions in their appointments. They used to dispute courageously with the home government. Viscount Kikujiro Ishii, one of the brilliant elders from Kasumigaseki, said that a diplomat has a statesmanship style and a negotiation style. But there are probably almost no diplomats who excel in statesmanship. Mutsu and Komura are probably crying in the next world. I hear people who sharply criticize that nowadays a diplomat is only a name and the substance of what he does is to administer diplomacy. While assuming the title of ambassador (the first character in the Japanese word for ambassador means great), in essence he becomes small.

It goes without saying that there are few superior men of ability, and politicians have but an extremely rough international sense. Also, since the mass media is notable for its tendency to disclose everything, generally speaking, politicians are apt to have very little willingness to act positively.

The reason that Japan ran as a candidate for non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (1978 General Assembly) was that it understood it had to add up a series of positive achievements in order to acquire a permanent membership seat. Japan was roundly defeated by Bangladesh, the most destitute country. Our UN ambassador is an extremely capable diplomat but it is likely that Japan's reading of the vote was superficial. Losing was like a monkey falling out of a tree. Japan has a great ability to get votes in the UN, but resistance grew stronger for a fifth time candidate. Although the opponent had the organizational votes (the 86 non-aligned nations), the religious vote (Islamic nations) and a local vote (British Commonwealth), Japan's basic vote was only Western Europe and Latin America (a total of 41). Japan had to get the Asian and African votes. I think that for all that, they would have had a chance of success if they had made a greater effort near

Japan has the third largest share of expenses but it seems that there is some doubt about how much Japan can contribute to "international peace and security" which is the function of the Security Council. Japan has entrusted its own defense to the U.S. and there is the argument that Japan's contribution to the world cannot be expected since Japan does not cooperate in Emergency UN Forces or monitoring delegations. The attitude of the nouveaux riches, as if to say it is alright just to give money, is unpopular. Japan must pay particular heed to such criticism because Japan's diplomacy is a repeat of UN diplomacy; and Japan must acquire the trust of the third world---the main force in the UN. However, former Foreign Minister Toshio Kimura, who attended the Nairobi United Nations Conference on Trade Development (1976) as Japan's representative, was extremely disappointed at his own government's lack of original thinking.

One reason for the stagnant diplomacy is that the present bureaucrats do not respect the elders. Foreign affairs bureaucrats, on account of their excessive consciousness of being "elite," have a tendency toward social isolation. But

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more than that, once they leave the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, they become almost powerless Old Boys (OB's). At least, it would be nice to unite the OB's in some kind of active service. But, as a rule, their relations toward each other are cool. When you compare them with the Ministry of Finance or the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, I wonder if it really is that different. I understand that officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are under pressure from work. However, since another meaning for the Japanese word "ministry" is "omit," they ought to reduce their miscellaneous work. Like someone riding an escalator, these officials have to get off sooner or later. It is strange they do not understand that. The result is that there are no strong backers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. No matter how long they continue, they remain nothing but weak flowers.

Because such is the situation, they have little ability of acquiring a better budget. It is the responsibility of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to improve Japan's image abroad, and we ought to be afraid of the lack of recognition of Japan by foreign nations. Despite that, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expenses for foreign education (enlightenment) is only 2 billion yen and expenses for domestic education is only 400 million yen. This is utterly absurd, since Toyota Motor Co., Ltd. spends 20.4 billion yen and Sony, 7.3 billion yen. To donate to foreign universities helps in improving education but an increase in the foreign affairs budget is more necessary. Therefore, it is necessary that the foreign affairs authorities willingly give thought to improving the vitality of the OB's, and that past and present officials work as one. As long as they neglect to do so, they may not be able to keep their foundation from sinking.

In conclusion, I would like to point out that, after all, the practical application of diplomacy is the government's responsibility. Diplomacy is an extension of internal politics. If the political situation is not stabilized or the economy is not prosperous, there can be no hope for a solid diplomacy.

The mission of Japan's diplomacy is to serve the welfare of the world, by using its economic power. The Tokyo industrialized nations summit offers a golden opportunity to demonstrate our willingness. On that assumption, Japan has to ensure its own security before anything else. To do that, it is wise to hold fast to the security treaty. On account of this, it is necessary to further the interdependent relationship between the U.S. and Japan. However, the present situation is such that the extent to which Japan needs the U.S. is far greater than the extent to which the U.S. needs Japan. It will be dangerous for the future of our security if Japan does not plan something early in order to correct this situation, so that the U.S. will not pull away from Japan.

For example, it is no good if U.S.-Japan trade friction occurs constantly. Concerning this, we must point out the lack of understanding in the U.S. attitude, but it is necessary that Japan use its superabundant economic power to push forward on making itself into a new country. Today when Japan, so to speak, has overachieved its national policy as a 100 year old exporting

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nation, Japan has finally been liberated from the urgency of "catching up with and overtaking others." Now is the time to be wise and build a new Japan. The mass media likes to report Japan as a weak person with a persecution complex, saying that Japan is receiving a sound thrashing. Instead, I think that Japan, like a strong person---from Japan's own autonomous position, not because of U.S. pressure---must promptly wrestle with a reorganization reform of its industrial structure. It is said that the prime minister is going to visit the U.S. soon, but he should not make his appeal as a lowly person.

Today is the era of leadership diplomacy. The prime minister must eliminate sectionalism on the part of each ministry by displaying his own leadership. His guidance is greatly anticipated even on development aid for ASEAN---the Fukuda Doctrine is popular, but there is pent-up dissatisfaction because nothing has come of it. If that leadership is missing, Japan starts to break its promises and loses confidence in its diplomacy. In that sense, the United Nations Conference on Trade Development talks in May (Manilla) will become the touchstone of Ohira's diplomacy. The popular joke in New York nowadays is that a beggar called to a passer-by to stop and said: "brother, give me even one yen." Japan's image as an economic power is that great. A diplomatic policy corresponding to that power is desired.

Therefore, it is disturbing to see that the Diet is immersed solely in the Grumman incident. Even the mass media is caught up in the spell of this incident. Even though the U.S. press has ignored this, why is the Japanese mass media so hysterical about it. Moreover, besides the fact that it is necessary to give warning about Soviet tendencies, the whole diplomatic state of affairs is tense with Iran, Cambodia, the collision of Chinese-Vietnamese military forces and friction in Japan-U.S. trade. Perhaps it is natural in such a situation that diplomacy stagnates. Without a military and lacking in resources, Japan's existence depends on its skill in diplomacy. I will be happy if Japan's grave monument doesn't read: "Destroyed by the mass media and the government."

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

JCP OFFICIAL ISSUES STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR ARMS IN OKINAWA

Tokyo JPS in English 0946 GMT 26 Jun 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, June 26, JPS--There is a possibility that nuclear weapons are still stockpiled in Okinawa. This shocking fact was revealed on June 25 by U.S. columnist Jack Anderson. In the wake of his revelation, communist councillor Koichiro Ueda issued the following statement:

"What Anderson pointed out endorsed again the correctness of my inquiry into suspicion at the Upper House budget committee in March last year that there were nuclear promises in the Japan-U.S. negotiations on the restoration of administrative rights of Okinawa to Japan.

"It is serious that Anderson obtained the full text of the document, 'state security memorandum,' dated May 28, 1969. It has become clear that the top policy of the United States at the final stage of the negotiations on the return of Okinawa's administrative rights was such that the United States would agree to the 'removal of nuclear weapons,' should the 'United States maintain the right to stockpile and transit nuclear weapons in an emergency.'

"Taking into account the essential importance of the matter, I will demand that the Japanese Foreign Ministry and the government release all details related to the secret promises between Japan and the United States on the Okinawa negotiations, and that the Japanese Government investigate all U.S. warships and warplanes landing on U.S. bases in Okinawa that are capable of carrying nuclear weapons, and to find if they are equipped with nuclear weapons."

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

JDA PLANS TO CHANGE DEFENSE LAWS AND INCREASE RESERVE FORCES

Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 30 Apr 79 p 1

[Text] The JDA, as a link in efforts to "create emergency response readiness," has firmed a policy calling for expanding the present reserve system. Concrete plans are now under study. In an effort to plan for deployment of the reserve system, thereby correcting the failure until now to clarify its utilization in defense strategy, the following ideas are currently being considered: (1) providing for a large-scale personnel increase of the approximately 40,000 reservists now in service, (2) to achieve this, making it possible to employ recruits other than those with prior Self Defense Force experience, and (3) clarifying the division of responsibility between the reserves and regular forces, giving reserves responsibility for "rear guard duties," including "support duty" and "replacements for regular forces losses." The JDA hopes to complete structural reforms within the next two years.

Creating a Continuing Emergency Readiness

The reserve defense forces system began in 1954, along with the Self Defense Force, with a personnel complement of 15,000 recruits. Subsequent personnel increases have resulted in the current strength of 39,000 land and 600 sea force troops. An increase of another 1000 troops is anticipated with approval of defense legislation reforms currently being debated in the Diet. Under current defense legislation, reserve forces are limited to personnel with experience in the Self Defense Force, and are further limited to volunteer recruits. Besides the duty to respond to "call-up orders" in an emergency, reservists must undergo 5 days of training yearly during peacetime.

Until now, however, problems related to the reserve system have been neglected since there have been no clearly stipulated provisions for the role or deployment of reserve troops in an emergency. "We have been occupied with the expansion of front-line forces" (JDA senior officers).

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Recently there has been progress toward the creation of a condition of emergency response readiness through a series of events which include consideration of emergency legislation, plans to establish a central command post, consideration of joint Japanese-American strategy based on the "guidelines for Japanese-American strategy defense cooperation," and finally "defense studies" concerning the deployment of Self Defense Forces in the event of an emergency. Along with these, the problem of utilization of reserve forces has risen to the surface. In particular, under the proposal to restrict the Land Self Defense Force to its current strength of 180,000 troops, the utilization of reservists becomes a key factor in defense strategy. For that reason the decision has been made to work out a long-term reform of the system centered on senior officers of the Self Defense Branch of the JDA and of the Land, Sea, and Air Self Defense Forces.

First, as to the scale of reserve forces, the prevalent thinking within the JDA is that the present strength of 40,000 troops should be increased to a number at least in excess of regular Land Self Defense Force personnel (180,000). This thinking is based on the notion that since other nations maintain military reserves in excess of regular land forces, Japan should also attempt to approach "international levels" in this respect. Since it will not be possible to provide a full personnel complement on this level solely from recruits with Self Defense Force experience, it will be necessary to change defense legislation to permit the use of personnel from the non-experienced sector. As to whether we can expect volunteers from the general public, JDA officers reply, "In a public opinion survey conducted by the prime minister's office in December of last year, 7 percent of those responding said they 'would join defense forces and fight,' in the event of an invasion or attack on Japan. We feel there would be many volunteers for a reserve force."

Meanwhile, thinking as to the responsibilities of the reserve forces is that they should (1) provide, in the event of an emergency, rear line policing activities such as guarding positions left by regular forces moving to the front; (2) provide rear support such as supply and equipment repair; (3) provide replacements for regular force losses. In particular, there appears to be a strong view that, once the structure for rear line defense by the reserves is established, should Hokkaido (for instance) come under attack, forces from Kyushu and Shikoku could be dispatched to Hokkaido, hence simplifying the task of formulating emergency strategy. The expansion of reserve forces to include volunteers from the general public will probably become the topic of a great debate since it goes beyond the bounds of emergency considerations within the JDA, but relates directly to the proper disposition of defense and the citizenry.

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

ACTIVITIES OF LDP FACTIONS BEING STEPPED UP

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 23 May 79 p 2

[Nagatacho Doings column by Takehiko Takahashi]

[Text]

The factions of the Liberal-Democratic Party have been called "joint stock companies allotting money and position." "All factions and no party" has been another description. In any case, the evils of factions have been pointed out from long in the past.

As a means of abolishing them, former Prime Minister Takeo Miki proposed the wide participation of party members and party supporters in the election of the party president. As a follow-up to this, former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda dissolved his own faction and called on others to follow suit.

There has been no change, however, in the reality. Factions are still going strong. The last party presidential election was held centering on them. In preparing for the next election, different factions have started to strengthen factional solidarity. This holds true for the Miki faction. The Fukuda faction, which was supposed to have been dissolved, has changed its group name from "Yokakai" to "Seiwakai" and is briskly carrying on factional activities.

Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira acknowledges factions. There have been cases in which a person elected through the strength of factions turned around after the election and started advocating the "elimination of factions." Not so with Prime Minister Ohira. On the contrary, his way of thinking is that competition among factions is giving vitality to the LDP.

It is certain that factions have a sort of utility as pointed out by Prime Minister Ohira. But the biggest reason why he is highly evaluating the utility of factions and acknowledging their existence is in connection with the next party presidential election.

Ohira's election and assumption of the premiership were made possible by the activities of the Ohira and Tanaka factions. In order to be reelected as the LDP president in the next election, Ohira will again need the strong support of the Ohira and Tanaka factions. If Ohira were to follow Fukuda's example and dissolve his own faction, denying the need for factions, the possibility will arise of Ohira meeting the same fate as Fukuda.

As far as Prime Minister Ohira is concerned, although the existence of factions might be a hindrance in the phase of the party's day-to-day activities, he must endure that hindrance when thinking about the party presidential election.

A committee for "party reform" has been set up in the LDP. It is engaged in studies, inclusive of the party presidential election system. But every member of this committee belongs to some faction. When they express their opinions, they do so by considering in what way each proposal for reform will benefit their respective factions. Under such a situation, it will not be easy to arrive at an agreement.

The five main LDP factions are those of Tanaka, Fukuda, Ohira, Nakasone and Miki. In the past there were others, such as the Shiina, Funada, Mizuta and former Ishii factions. Nowadays these minor factions are lumped together as "intermediate factions."

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In the midst of such a situation, the birth of a new group has taken place. It has not matured enough to be called a "faction," but the possibility exists of its assuming a factional role in the future.

This is the "Jiyu Kakushin Doyukai." Which was inaugurated on May 15. Of the 19 Diet members whose names are listed as members, 18 attended the inaugural meeting. Outwardly the name of Shiro Hasegawa, former minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, is given as the chairman but the central figure is Ichiro Nakagawa, who has also held the same cabinet post.

The lineup of this new group can be broken down into Shiina faction 4, Nakasone faction 4, Fukuda faction 7, former Ishii faction 1, former Mizuta faction 1, and unaffiliated 2. As can be seen from the roster, members of The Fukuda faction are preponderant and the two unaffiliated are also persons close to that faction. The secretary general is also from the Fukuda faction. The new group is thus being looked upon as a "detached force" of the Fukuda faction.

The representative manager of the Fukuda faction's Seiwakai group is Shintaro Abe, former chief cabinet secretary. There are thus two influences supporting Fukuda at present, the group centering on Abe and the group centering on Nakasone.

Although Nakagawa is likely to carry on activities for the time being as a "detached force" of the Fukuda faction, there is strong possibility of his taking independent action in the future to form a Nakagawa faction.

In the next general election and in next year's election of the House of Councillors, these various factions can be expected to fully expose their respective interests in scrambling for the party's recommendation of candidates.

Up to now it has been widely said that the elimination of factions was necessary for the LDP's modernization. At present, however, the contrary course is being taken. Factional activities are being stepped up all the more.

(The writer is an adviser of The Mainichi Newspapers and former chief editorial writer).

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

KIMPEI SHIBA SPEAKS OUT ON 'THE JAPANESE MALADY'

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 24 May 79 p 3

[Japan Today and Yesterday column by Kimpei Shiba]

[Text]

One of the expressions which the Japanese are fond of using is "the English sickness," a term which was coined in West Germany in the 1960's to describe the manner in which the British were constantly demanding new welfare benefits, and going on strikes on the slightest pretext.

A similar phrase, "the Japanese malady" — to describe the irritating characteristic of this nation to hedge on its pledges and employ "haragei" tactics to delude others — would seem apt. I say this because the ailment appears to be growing more pronounced each year.

This characteristic surfaced soon after World War II, during the meetings between the then Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida and General MacArthur when Japan lay prostrate. Seventy-four million people—that was the population then — faced starvation. Yoshida became prime minister in May, 1946, and almost immediately started calling on MacArthur constantly to plead for food. He told the American general that famine was close at hand and asked for 5 million metric tons of food as the minimum necessary to guarantee against starvation.

MacArthur, held this figure down to 3,311,000 metric tons.

There was no starvation. Some months after this when Yoshida called on MacArthur, the latter chided him on how wrong the Japanese figures had been.

Good humoredly, Yoshida answered that "if we had been able to depend on the accuracy of our figures, we might not have lost the war."

The peculiar Japanese trait of employing "haragei" — which means being deceptive — was revealed in the talks between prime ministers Eisaku Sato and his successor Kakuei Tanaka, in their respective conversations with President Nixon, and in the talk between Takeo Fukuda and President Carter.

Mr. Fukuda was succeeded by Masayoshi Ohira who visited Washington in April in the wake of American congressional threats to enforce protectionist measures.

However, the joint communique issued after the meeting includes phrases like, "the prime minister and the president agreed" . . . "they reached a clear understanding" . . . and "they agreed on a framework and procedure."

Which is what the prime ministers of Japan and the presidents of the United States have been assuring their people since 1970. Meanwhile, American deficits in its trade with this country have con-

tinued to increase and Japan's surpluses have kept on rising.

There are many reasons for this, including the manner in which the Japanese government works hand in glove with business.

But a reason I have not seen explained is the weakness of recent Japanese prime ministers. In no other advanced nation will you find the head of a government whose pledge is as worthless as that of a Japanese P.M.

This is not because the heads of recent Japanese governments are weaklings or dishonest or deceptive. They are men who, under different circumstances, would conduct themselves as true Japanese gentlemen whose word could serve as their bond.

Because the governing Liberal-Democratic Party is ridden with five roughly equally powerful factions, it has become the custom for each new prime minister to allot about the same number of cabinet posts to each of the other factions as he does to his own. This, of necessity, precludes a powerful cabinet from being formed.

Masayoshi Ohira became prime minister rather unexpectedly last December and almost immediately faced the necessity of making a transcendently important decision on relations with the United States.

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His government was presented with what might almost be termed an ultimatum by a U.S. House Ways and Means task force which visited Japan, headed by Congressman James R. Jones. The Jones Report began with these words: "We went to Japan to deliver a message, as clearly as possible that the unacceptable trade balance of about \$12 billion in 1978... is creating pressures in the American Congress for protectionist legislation... The situation is urgent."

Informed that Congress was almost certain to impose a 15-percent tariff surcharge on Japanese goods unless Japan acted to reduce its surplus in a more positive manner, Mr. Ohira weighed this in balance with allowing American companies to bid on high-technology items like computers to be purchased by the semi-government Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corp. (NTT).

Mr. Ohira considered the latter course to be in the better interest of the nation than having a surcharge slammed on its exports, and instructed President Tokuji Akikusa of NTT to accept bids from the Americans.

Mr. Akikusa asked whether this was an order, and when told that it was, he submitted his resignation on the ground that installing vast quantities of American equipment would disrupt NTT's operations.

Having put the alternatives in the balance and chosen what he considered to be in the best interest of the nation, you would think Mr. Ohira would be perfectly justified in firing Mr. Akikusa.

He did not because he did not have his cabinet's full backing. He hemmed and hawed and said he would like to consider the matter later, when the time of his departure for Washington for talks with Mr. Carter was at hand. Meantime, he asked the Americans to keep the NTT question in abeyance.

It is interesting to note that in their joint communique President Carter and Prime Minister Ohira declared that "accomplishment of these goals will require several years." One wonders whether this phrasing was in any way connected with the NTT issue.

Talking with the President of the United States is one thing; dealing with Congress is something else as the Japanese have excellent reason to know.

In 1923 an act was introduced into Congress putting immigrants from Europe on a quota basis, but excluding immigrants ineligible for American citizenship, which then included the Japanese, from "quota." Had the Japanese been placed on the quota basis only 100 immigrants would have entered each year, so the Japanese government pleaded that this "done as a face saving gesture."

The people of this country strongly opposed the Japanese Exclusion Clause and had the sympathy of the U.S. president. Tokyo's ambassador, Masanao Hanihara, in a speech opposing what he considered an affront to his people, declared that passage of the offensive clause might bring about grave consequences.

The words "grave consequences" threw the U.S. Senate into an uproar. The ambassador was accused of trying to intimidate the United States. The Senate passed the bill in its original form.

Let us hope that Mr. Ohira and the other powers, that will be in Japan, will keep well in mind the might and temper of the U.S. Congress and discover, perhaps from the former senator of Montana, what that body's true present mood might be.

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JAPANESE MEDIA RAP EX-SUPER GRADES FOR DOUBLE-DIPPING

'White Paper' Statistics Published

Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 5 Apr 79 p 1

[Text] According to the National Personnel Authority's recently published "White Paper on High Level Personnel Leaving the Government for Other Positions," a total of 196 high ranking officials received approval for leaving government service for positions in private firms. This figure is second to the record high of 198 set in 1977. The breakdown of this figure shows that the Finance Ministry, with 46 persons leaving, accounted for the greatest number of cases followed by the National Tax Administration Agency, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries with 17 persons leaving and the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications with 16 persons leaving. Conversely, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Economic Planning Agency, which are not actually involved with industry, had no high level personnel leaving for other positions.

In addition to these people who left the government for private industry there were about 100 persons who left high governmental posts for positions in different types of public corporations. According to a white paper recently released by Sei Ro Kyo, 80 percent of the 800 officials in those organizations are former high ranking government officials. There is other interesting data in this white paper, which was composed by the labor union. According to the paper, 7.4 percent of the officials were appointed from or came from other jobs in the private sector, and 100 percent of the officers of 30 corporations such as the Tokyo Expressway Public Corporation are former government officials. Moreover, the highest retirement pay paid to an official was the 75 million yen paid to the chairman of the board of a certain research institute who had been in that post for 12 years and 4 months. In each case, the above data reinforces the common people's image of Japan as "paradise for officials." Furthermore, since there is no fixed retirement age for public officials, anyone may receive a 50 percent extra "handshake" on top of his retirement allowance if he does not continue to work beyond "officials' heaven." Mr Baba has been studying the previous careers, retirement benefits and so forth of

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persons who have retired from special corporations over the past 4 years. So far he has confirmed over 20 cases of high ranking bureaucrats who have moved from job to job.

In the Auditing Committee on the 22nd, Mr Baba pressed Director of the Administrative Management Agency Motohiko Kanai by giving examples of two bureaucrats from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and one bureaucrat from the Finance Ministry who have been moving around among the special corporations for about 10 years; Mr Baba called this "a waste of tax money."

After a prefatory reply that "in the current period of slow economic growth we must change our thinking on the allowances and retirement benefits for executives of the special corporations which became "common practice" during the 10 years or so of rapid economic growth which began in 1962 or 1963," Director Kanai clarified policy on rectifying the "officials' heaven."

After posing his question, Mr Baba held a press conference and, in addition to the three persons he had pointed out in the Audit Committee meeting, gave the example of Former Chairman of the Board of the Hanshin Superhighway Corporation Mamoru Shibata, who was compelled by the LDP to stand for the Kyoto Mayoral election 9 years earlier and who became a topic of conversation on the 7th when he was appointed president of the Finance Corporation of Local Public Enterprise. Mr Baba announced publicly that this man had received about 40 million yen in retirement benefits in a period of 8 years 7 months spent as an executive for special corporations, and would receive another large sum in retirement benefits when he retires as president of the Finance Corporation for Local Public Enterprise.

The question of retirement benefits and double-dipping by public officials has been taken up by the Diet a number of times. On 6 February 1970 the law governing benefits on retirement from special corporations was changed from the formula "salary X 0.65 X months of service" to the formula "salary X 0.45 X months of service." In the amendment for 1 April 1978 the rate was again changed from 0.45 to 0.36. The salaries of executives in the special corporations, however, have risen greatly, and the retirement benefits remain high. Since the monthly salary of the president of an "A Class" special corporation such as the Housing Corporation is 1,005,000 yen, such a person could receive retirement benefits of 4,341,600 yen if he were to retire after a year. Given these calculations, the pockets of the double-dippers will bulge in spite of the cries for revision of the law.

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Investigation's Findings

Tokyo YOMIURI SHINBUN in Japanese 23 Feb 78 p 22

[Article: "Double-Dippers' Job Changes and Retirement Pay (From an investigation by Committeeman Itaro Baba)"]

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[Text] Mr A (Former Administrative Vice Minister of Agriculture and Forestry):

President of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Finance Corporation (4 years, 8 months); Chairman of the Central Horseracing Association Board (6 years, 1 month).  
Retirement Pay: 58 million yen.

Mr B (Former Director of the Banking Bureau of the Ministry of Finance):

President of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Finance Corporation (4 years); Vice President of the Housing Corporation (1 year, 6 months); Chairman of the Board of the Okinawa Finance Corporation (4 years); President of the People's Finance Corporation (current).  
Retirement Pay: 50 million yen (estimated).

Mr C (Former executive in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries):

Vice Chairman of the Greater Japan Fisheries Association (length of service unknown); President of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Finance Corporation (7 years, 5 months); Chairman of the Central Horseracing Association Board (6 years, 1 month).  
Retirement Pay: 80 million yen.

Mr D (Former Vice Minister of Home Affairs):

Chairman of the Board of the Honshu-Shikoku Bridge Authority (6 years); Chairman of the Board of the Hanshin Superhighway Corporation (2 years, 7 months); President of the Finance Corporation of Local Public Enterprise (current).  
Retirement Pay: 40 million yen plus.

Question Raised in Diet Regarding Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Official Who Collected 80 million yen in Retirement Benefits From Three Job Changes.

"There is a person who collected a total of about 800 million yen in retirement pay by moving three times into important posts in special corporations after retiring as an official of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries." In the 22 February meeting of the House of Representatives Audit Committee (chaired by Seiji Kato), statements such as this by Itaro Baba of the JSP raised questions about the problem of double-dipping by civil servants, and probed the perennial age 60. Pensions also include numerous special favors by comparison with the private sector. It is only natural that in the midst of recession the popularity of government service, both in the central and provincial governments, increases. More than 40 times the needed personnel now compete in the test for upper level government employment. However, if you let the officials who are now in their 40's tell it, the world of government service, too, has its harsh side. Even among career officers, only half can remain beyond the level of deputy bureau chief in the first line



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ministries, and the selecting out begins when the officials are in their late 40's. It might be mentioned that the 196 people who left government service for other positions are numbered among the 2000 persons of the rank of division chief or higher in first line ministries who retired last year.

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Record Numbers Changing Jobs

Tokyo YOMIURI SHINBUN in Japanese 31 Mar 78 p 7

[Article: "Large Numbers Jubilantly Leaving Government Posts for Other Jobs"]

[Text] Where is the lesson learned from the Lockheed Incident? There certainly seem to be some things about the world of government officials which cannot be comprehended by the common sense of the world at large. Without regard for the recession or unstable employment, record numbers of high ranking bureaucrats are leaving the government for jobs in private firms. The feeling that this is indeed a world of its own is intensified with a look into the 1977 "White Paper on High Level Personnel Leaving the Government for Other Positions" which the National Personnel Authority presented to the Cabinet and the Diet on 30 March 1978.

Why did the number of persons leaving high government posts for other jobs last year increase so much that it set a record as the highest of all past years? Even the National Personnel Authority says it does not know. In the year before last there were 159 cases of high level bureaucrats moving from government posts to other jobs. Last year, however, there were 198 cases; a rate that came close to 200 cases. The 159 cases in the year before last was the lowest total in the past 5 years and can be called an extremely low figure. The number, however, increased suddenly last year to the highest level since 1963, which required the National Personnel Authority to report to the Cabinet and the Diet in its "White Paper on High Level Personnel Leaving the Government for Other Positions." How can this very sudden change in the rate of incidents be explained?

"The increases over the previous year in the number of approved cases reflect the fact that there were 10 more cases of persons moving from positions as chiefs of subordinate agencies than from positions in firstline ministries and agencies, and the fact that the number moving from the Ministry of Construction doubled over the previous year" (Director of the Personnel Bureau of the National Personnel Authority Goro Kanai). This, however, is by no means an explanation of what, despite the recession, may be the highest level in history. The only explanation given was pointless. "These are merely the figures produced as a result of investigation according to the law regarding applications from the various ministries. Since the number of applications from the various ministries has increased, perhaps there is a connection with the ministries' personnel management policies on increased numbers of retirements" (Mr Kanai).

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The year before last showed a very low level; last year showed a record high level. According to the explanations by the National Personnel Authority, this was a completely accidental outcome. This is not the case. The total for the year before last was low because "connections between government officials and companies" came in for strong criticism from national public opinion as when the relationship between the Ministry of Transportation and All Nippon Airways became a problem in the Lockheed case. Even the National Personnel Authority made tentative overtures to the public in the summer of that year by developing a policy of tightening controls on leaving government service for other positions. Consequently, the low figure for that year should be considered a result of the various ministries' exercising self-control regarding this practice.

That was only 1 year ago. It can probably be said that those who avoided public criticism and shrugged their shoulders have come forward boldly to take back what they hesitated to take the year before last. The self-examination and restraint shown at the time of the Lockheed incident have been thrown aside. This is probably the situation surrounding the movement of high ranking government officials to other positions which is found in the recent white paper.

We have no intention of saying that it is unconditionally bad for officials to leave for other jobs. In times of recession companies want to get capable, talented people. The specialized knowledge and capability of the bureaucrat as well as his connections which he has cultivated during his time of service are probably useful weapons to the firm to which the bureaucrat moves. The problem is that this sort of movement is made by using authority and pull while in office, and this becomes a hotbed for so-called "collusion." Therefore, in Article 103 of the Government Official Act it is stipulated that approval of the National Personnel Administration will be required. In short, with the large number of cases, the question is how is the National Personnel Authority's checking function working.

There is probably some leniency in the application of this system. Last year all applications were approved.

In January of last year the prime minister directed the National Personnel Authority to "tighten regulation on leaving government posts for other positions" along the lines of United States President Carter's "Code of ethics for government officials and employees." What has become of this directive? We have not heard that the National Personnel Authority has put it into substantive form. Although the people involved might have somehow ducked the investigation by the National Personnel Authority, it is a fact that the world at large, which is buffeted by the winds of unstable employment in the recession, finds it hard to be convinced by the phenomenon of record numbers of government officials moving to new positions in private enterprises.

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Officials, Companies Respond

Tokyo SHUKAN SHINCHO in Japanese 12 Apr 79 pp 158-162

[Text] When asked why he wanted to go to Tokyo University a sixth grader, so the story goes, replied, "Because if I go to Tokyo University I can become a government official, and if I become a government official I can leave for a good position." The story is an old one but it is sad that to the pitiful middle aged and older people who are scurrying about looking for a second career the youngster in the story is not funny. At this season every year the National Personnel Authority releases its report on high ranking government officials leaving for the other positions. During last year 196 high ranking bureaucrats "descended from on high," 196 enviable people. Moreover, 68 of these people became executives in the entities to which they moved.

"My thoughts on "double-dipping"; well, I do not have any thoughts on the subject."

These are the words of Minoru Masuda, who "moved to a new position" in June of last year. This man has served as director of the Trade Promotion Bureau and as chief of the Minister's Secretariat in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and as director of the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy.

Mr Masuda said, "I did not have any intention of going to the Bank of Tokyo. I was thinking of relaxing for 2 years and then looking for a job related to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry. I was ready to be on my own and unattached. Then the Bank of Tokyo asked me to become an advisor on expansion and promotion of international operations. If that was what they wanted, I did have some knowledge of overseas; and so, in a completely passive sort of way, I fell into my current situation. In the meantime, it is all right if I do not go to my office; I take trips, read books, go to the movies and take it easy. I did not have this freedom while I was in the government."

As the reader knows, for a government official to take a position in a firm which has close connections with his place of employment is prohibited for a period of 2 years after the official's retirement. Mr Masuda intends to spend the 2 years this way. If this is not enviable, one wonders what would be.

However, we add a word in Mr Masuda's behalf. There are crowds of these enviable people in addition to Mr Masuda; but, since the positions to which these people are moving are in public corporations and so forth and not in private firms as in Mr Masuda's case, they are "untouchable" to the National Personnel Authority and do not come readily to light. It seems that since the various kinds of public corporations appear to be closely related to government offices, the National Personnel Authority does not regard moving to them as moving out of government to a related position.

Consequently, we probably must give some explanation here regarding those 196 enviable people. In fact, the 196 persons are only the tip of the iceberg. Nationwide about 30,000 people retired from government offices last year. Some of these people went into various kinds of public corporations, but the

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National Personnel Authority investigates only persons of division chief rank or above who leave their posts for private enterprises. The purpose of the investigations, of course, is to prevent collusion between government offices and the entities to which these people move. As a result, 196 people passed this investigation.

The question is were there any who did not pass. It is naive to think that "with all the criticism of leaving government for related posts, no amount of audacity and so forth and so on." Six cases of attempted moves from government to related positions were rejected in investigations by the National Personnel Authority this year. This is not, however, simply a matter of audacity. One might think that one so weak minded as not to be aware of the rules of the game is not fit to be a government official, but for the National Personnel Authority the names of these people are a closely guarded secret.

Nevertheless, somehow it seems that these six people were not particularly brazen. It seems, moreover, that it is the majority of the cases which are brazen requests, and since the difference between passing and not passing the investigation is a matter of one piece of paper, it is necessary for the National Personnel Authority to offer up several people as proof that the investigation is fair and rigorous. If this is the case, then there is no reason to expect that the National Personnel Authority would make the names public, because these people are sacrificial victims to whom the National Personnel Authority is in debt.

For example, there is the following case. A person who held a fairly high rank in the Bureau of Financial Affairs for Tohoku in the Ministry of Finance left his position for an executive position in a credit union in the Tokyo-Yokohama area. From any point of view this is a brazen move, but it duly passed examination by the National Personnel Board. Perhaps the reasoning was that Tokyo and Yokohama are distant from Tohoku.

The official commented:

"It was not my wish to go to this credit union. The office said to me, "Will you not go over there and give them a hand?" Since I was thinking about leaving at an appropriate time, it was a matter of "anyplace will be fine." The place I am going will not say so publicly, but under the surface, they probably had some kind of hopes of getting me. I will not deny that. Even while I was serving in the government old friends who had left for positions in the private sector came begging for me. The government, however, is not easily moved by begging. The people and the Diet keep a sharp watch on industry in this regard, and one cannot do anything unreasonable. If something is to be acceptable one must argue for it within the government. In any case, I have been doing my homework with the idea that this time would probably come for me, too."

It is no secret at all what advantages the firms who accept these government officials are thinking about.

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There is probably no doubt that this person will work. It is rare for a person with this much "talent" to come down to a credit union. He, himself, says, "Leaving government for a related position is determined by the economic situation of the times. When jobs are hard to find a pool of exceptional talent builds up, while in an era of rapid growth there is a shortage of manpower and talent does not pool up. This is also so as far as leaving the government is concerned." What he means to say is "If this were not the period of poor business conditions that it is, a person of my "talent" would not be leaving the government to go into a credit union." And, conversely, he, himself, is not satisfied with this situation.

"You cannot help but feel that something like fate is at work. This is also true of the economic situation; but, depending on the year you come to work in a government ministry, there are sometimes a great many excellent people and sometimes there are not. If there are a lot of excellent people, they will gradually be selected out. Since you know what rank you will be able to reach, retirement with dignity becomes the better course when you reach your mid-forties. There are a great many people who came into the ministry when I did and left early for the private sector; riding the waves of rapid growth some of them later became presidents and vice-presidents of companies. They live in big houses. On the other hand, the people who thought that maybe something might break for them if they stayed a little longer lose out later in their careers. When they belatedly leave for other jobs, only second rate firms are left to go to. Sometimes these firms fail. It is a sad thing when this happens. Life is like majong. Sometimes you win and sometimes you lose."

How like a government official to speak in terms of majong.

Ministry or Agency	Industry							
	Seafood Products	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Trading	Finance	Real Estate	Total
National Police Agency			1					1
Hokkaido Development Agency			10					11
Defense Facilities Administration Agency			1					1
Environmental Agency							1	2
Okinawa Development Agency			1					1
Ministry of Finance	1		2	2	1	26	13	46
National Tax Administration Agency	3		1	6	4		1	17
	31							

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Ministry or Agency	Industry										Total
	Seafood Products	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Trading	Finance	Real Estate	Communications	Transport/ Electric Power	Service Gas/	
Ministry of Education			1							2	3
Ministry of Health and Welfare			1	1	2						4
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	3		8	2						4	17
Food Agency	2							10			12
Forestry Agency				1						1	2
Fisheries Agency										1	1
Ministry of International Trade and Industry		2	2	6	2	1			4		17
Agency of Natural Resources and Energy			1								1
Ministry of Transport			2	2				8		4	16
Maritime Safety Agency			2	6	1					1	10
Meteorological Agency										1	1
Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications		1	1	1				11		2	16
Ministry of Labor			2								2
Ministry of Construction			7	4			2	1		2	16
Total	9	3	43	30	11	27	2	45	6	21	197

## Table of Industries Into Which Government Officials Moved

(There were a total of 196 persons involved, but the table shows a total of 197 because one person received approval from the National Personnel Authority in two cases.) Among the 196 people who left the government for related jobs there are some who belong to the ambitious group who make the change at an early age. There is a 47 year old who was the chief of a division in the Tokai Regional Finance Bureau of the Ministry of Finance and who became general manager for an underwriter of small to medium concerns.

He says:

"My leaving the government was based entirely on my personal career plan. To withdraw with dignity when the tap on the shoulder came and to be assigned retirement work and receive a retainer fee as my predecessors have done is not

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a lifestyle to my liking. Rather than that I will take a chance on a second career. If I leave my ministry at this age there will be assistant division chiefs and chief clerks whom I have trained in the office, but they are still young and will stay there for some time to come. That fact is probably working to my advantage. If this were after they had become older, the people whom I have trained would soon be leaving the government and I would not be able to fully satisfy the expectations of the firm which is taking me in. It is only natural that private firms which are looking for "talent" in the government should take this advantage into account." Nevertheless, this person's leaving the government met with violent opposition from his wife.

"The company I am now with is small but it will be that much more a pleasure for me to make it bigger. My wife, however, does not understand this. This is because whatever it may really be like to have a husband in the Ministry of Finance, it looks good to the world at large. Women are full of vanity. But I said, "Are you complaining when you are getting three meals a day?" I wonder if the idea is to make much of the government and look down on the people."

A heavy case of arrogance. But, for reference, we add the welcoming speech given by the president of the small to medium underwriting firm which this person joined.

"We do not have a long history and there are some weaknesses in the age mix of our employees. The oldest employee whom we have trained from scratch is 44 years old. We have no responsible managers older than this. Therefore, we asked for talent from the Regional Economic Bureau. We did this because a government official would actually have the ability to build a management system. It is difficult to train talent in the local regions and it was decided to get someone, by all means, who was trained; to have someone come out of the government was the quickest course of action. I think that as a result we got a truly good man, and this man says that he will use the connections he has in the government for us. We have no need of that at present, but ..."

Even so, perhaps because of the poor business conditions it is a fact that there is nothing conspicuously ostentatious about the jobs for which these 196 people are leaving the government. A credit union stands out as the destination of a person leaving the Ministry of Finance and service industries are represented in a large number which is not seen in average years.

Mr Shigeru Wada, the head of the accounting department at Nagasaki University left his position to go into a school and institutional coordinating service. This is a sister firm to a company which plans school related educational facilities and study centers. It contracts for cleaning and management and security for buildings. There are 15 persons in the company, and the official from the Ministry of Education is to be the company's general manager.

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The chief of the company's operations department has this to say:

"The Ministry of Education asked about the matter and since we had just opened an operations office in Kyushu the matter was decided. The Ministry of Education has 120,000 employees but few auxiliary organizations. It is difficult for a person at the level of a university department head to find new employment. There are few places to go in private enterprise which would be subject to approval in the Ministry of Education. Newly established private colleges would be about all there would be. So, we received someone coming out of government but, to some extent, it was in a sense a sociable arrangement. Still, there is excessive competition in this business, too. The cleaning industry has grown."

Mr Hidenori Hashimoto, who took a job in private industry on an assignment basis with a company called Nippon Fertilizer, was formerly a technician with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. He moved from one agricultural experimental site to another in the various regions. He says: "In the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries I did research on soil preparation. My current company handles fertilizer. My past and present both also involved study of organic matter. For the most part we technicians stay in the government until we are about 60 years old and then become school teachers; we do not become technical advisors to firms related to our work. We cannot find an easy retirement situation. I, myself, am paying off a loan on my house. Technicians are often transferred to the various regions and rarely build houses. Even I have to make payments on a housing loan until I am 70 years old. Four more years with the government would have been all right, but for 20 years I have left my family in Tokyo and gone here and there to my assignments by myself, and I somehow felt tired out. At that point I was asked about going to this company; so ..."

The term "descent from on high" is generally used, but these "descents" probably include various situations. Therefore, the National Personnel Authority does not like the term "amakudari" or "descent from on high." Their term is "change of employment." Kazuo Kawajima, an investigator in the Personnel Bureau who conducts investigations on changes of employment from government service said, "I do not know who coined the word "amakudari" but, sad to say, there is nothing that can be done about it as far as changes of employment are concerned." He went on to say:

"If a government employee is 53 or 54 years old, since the average age of government employees is 27 or 28, he is getting to the time when his son is finally leaving college and his daughter is getting married. Up to that point, even if he has steadily built up his savings, he cannot feel that he has an easy comfortable retirement. Besides, the human being is a sad creature. He gets up in the morning and thinks, "Well, what shall I do today?" If he knows there is nothing at all to do he will probably be worried."

Nevertheless, at this point places to which government officials can "descend" or rather change their employment are becoming conspicuously fewer. Mr Kawajima seems concerned about this. One reason is that the number of



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government officials retiring is increasing. In 1947 and 1948 after the war, returnees from abroad were taken in readily, and the time has come for those people to retire. Mr Kawajima says, "I consider myself fairly knowledgeable regarding types of work and the names of Japanese companies, but recently there has been a great increase of names I do not know among the names of companies to which departing government officials are going." Although it is not a very well known fact, the system whereby the National Personnel Authority investigates government officials leaving for other positions is a present from GHQ as are the general use Kanji and the 6-3 education system.

Originally, in America the social status of government officials was not all that high. On the contrary, there is even a story that when a child would not stop crying, if it were told that it would end up as a government official it would stop immediately. Even a crying child would hush at the thought of working for the government. Stories of government officials building up connections while in office and then leaving for private firms and stories of police who made bribery a common practice were nearly eliminated in the United States. However, even though it was fine that government officials did not throw their weight around in the United States, this was not the case in Japan. What would happen if restrictions were not placed on movement of Japanese government officials into private industry? GHQ was seriously concerned about this, it is said, and gave the National Personnel Authority the authority to investigate moves from government to related employment. Since that time there has been a strong antipathy toward these restrictions among government officials. One Old Boy from the Ministry of Finance observed:

"Japanese bureaucrats are like German bureaucrats; their social status is high and their intellectual level is high. A rather excellent group of people has gathered together. Sometimes, even the policeman commits a crime, but that sort of thing is the exception. Because the GHQ treated Japanese officials the same as American officials are treated, calling bureaucrats' change of jobs a "descent from on high" and the creation of a somewhat poor image probably dates from that era..."

Although we do not in the least intend to defend the idea of bureaucrats leaving government for jobs related to their government work, there is some reason in what this person said. We have previously mentioned that the investigation conducted by the National Personnel Authority has, in any case, virtually no meaning. If the official can be patient for only 2 years, he can move triumphantly into a position anywhere. There is no way to put a stop to moves by government officials into jobs related to their government work. How would it work if, conversely, we were to recognize that type of "descending from on high" which is common in America? There is a wealth of talent in the private sector; if we were to have a two way flow maybe it would provide an impetus and we could expect some desirable results.

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INSTITUTE DIRECTOR CALLS FOR HIGHER BIRTHRATE

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 4 Jun 79 p 12

[Article by Yoshikazu Sunata, staff writer: "'Japan Needs More Babies'"]

[Text]

"I wish the Japanese people would have more children," said Keinosuke Baba, director of the Social Development Research Institute, during an interview with the Mainichi Daily News last week. "This is what must be said, anyway."

His call for a recovery in the nation's sagging fertility level is probably the first in many years to be made by a responsible person in this country, where "over-population" has become an accepted household word and any suggestion that the Japanese should have more children would sound something like an anathema.

But, Baba, 70, observed that the trend in births is one of the most vital issues whenever the nation's future is to be discussed. The sagging birth-rate is obviously a serious matter when the future social welfare of this country is taken into consideration, he explained.

Today, the number of children born to each family is far below the so-called replacement level of 2.1. This trend, if allowed to continue,

will make the ratio of aged persons in the Japanese population all the higher in the future, explained the honorary professor of Hitotsubashi University, where he was once acting president.

An economist, Baba has also served many governmental councils, such as the Rice Price Council and the Central Labor Relations Commission.

Recently, he headed a team of experts which has just compiled a report on the future of Japan in special relation to the aging of the national population. The picture painted by the report is a gloomy one.

As to the probable population structure, it said that the process of aging in Japan will be faster than anywhere else in the world, and that the ultimate ratio of the aged in the total population will be higher than experienced elsewhere.

These predictions are based on the assumption that the fertility level, currently very low, would soon be restored to the replacement level. The difficulties to be faced by Japan

would be further compounded, should the fertility level remain low like at present, according to the report.

The report at the same time attached special importance to the assumption that so-called "nuclear families," statistically on the rise, are not deep-rooted in Japanese society, Baba continued. Stability is lacking in many nuclear families here. If many of the Japanese families are just separated from their parents because of housing difficulties or for other reasons, the elimination of the causes of such unwanted separation will become a key factor in future social welfare policies, he said.

When asked whether he was optimistic about the future, Baba shunned the question. "We have to overcome the expected difficulties at all costs."

Such efforts, he stressed, will cover the need for the Japanese to have a few more children—people who will shoulder the Japan of tomorrow.

"Having more children may be easy, but at the same time it

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will be a very difficult job," he mused; because the task would involve a change in values.

In this connection, he said, it will become necessary to give higher social recognition to the job of child rearing at home.

As long as working women are considered to be greater contributions to society, women will prefer to work rather than to have more children, he said, adding such thinking must be changed in favor of child rearing.

Baba, hoping for a recovery in the birthrate, also opined that, unless the conditions prevailing in developed countries change, these countries with diminishing populations among developing countries with fast growing populations might become mere "museum pieces."

"The aging of population is a problem with vital bearings on everybody," he said. "I would not like children of other persons to pay my pension."

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

'YOMIURI' COMMENTS ON TOKYO MEETING OF LABOR UNION LEADERS

Tokyo THE DAILY YOMIURI in English 22 Jun 79 p 2 OW

[Editorial: "Tokyo Summit of Labor Leaders"]

[Text] The "labor summit," or Tokyo congress of labor union leaders, will be held in Tokyo from Friday. The purpose of this meeting is to project the views of labor unionists in the coming Tokyo summit of economic powers. The congress will adopt a joint resolution calling for "full employment and economic growth" and "energy policies" and present it to Prime Minister Ohira.

Participating in the meeting will be the chairman secretaries-general and other leaders of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) and other international labor organizations.

These foreign organizations exert considerable influence on the political and economic affairs of their countries and in the world.

In contrast, the General Council of Trade Unions (SOHYO) and the Confederation of Labor (DOMEI), which will host the meeting, have relatively weak influence in Japan,

To illustrate, representatives of American and European labor organizations attending a meeting of the International Labor Organization (ILO) as directors of ILO go back to their quarters in cars supplied by their respective embassies. Japanese labor leaders must use taxis to ride back to their quarters.

Lack of Influence

Japanese government officials should receive foreign labor union leaders attending the labor summit with due respect. In Europe and America, the participation of workers in the decision-making process is a widely accepted practice. In Japan, labor unions do not have much influence at the national level, although they play a fairly large role at the level of private business. In this respect there is a great deal of difference between Japan and other advanced countries.

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The same thing can be said about working hours in Japan and Europe and the U.S. The sponsors of the labor summit say they will appeal for a 10 percent reduction in working hours and the adoption of a five-day, 36-hour workweek. These appeals are not unrealistic in Europe and America however. The appeal for a five-day workweek, in particular, is intended only for the Japanese public, for a five day workweek is already in force in other advanced countries.

The Japanese Government and the management of business organizations ought to reexamine the problem of shorter working hours and more holidays for workers. They should stop looking at these problems only from the viewpoint of the international competitive power of Japan. Otherwise, it is impossible to eliminate trade wars, which might flare up again at any time.

Japanese labor unions, for their part, should strengthen themselves and their policies by unifying the labor union-movement.

The labor summit also affords Japanese labor organizations, particularly SOHYO, an opportunity to study how they should relate themselves with the international labor movement.

SOHYO should strengthen its ties with the labor unions of the U.S. and West Europe without continuing to lean toward unions of socialist countries.

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

'ASAHI' EDITORIALIZES ON AID TO KAMPUCHEA

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 25 Jun 79 p 2 OW

[ASAHI SHIMBUN 23 June editorial: "Aid to Kampuchea"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda has told Ieng Sary, deputy prime minister and concurrently foreign minister of the Pol Pot government, who was visiting Japan on his way back to Cambodia after attending the foreign ministers' conference of nonaligned countries held in Sri Lanka, that Japan will study extending aid to Cambodia for humanitarian reasons.

However, what this aid, to be offered on humanitarian grounds to Cambodia torn by a war that reflects the dispute between China on one hand and the Soviet Union and Vietnam on the other, implies is not simple. If the suggested aid in effect heightens the confrontation between the two regimes in Cambodia, Japan's aim to be of help to the people of Cambodia will come to naught.

If Japan is to open its windows to all the forces on the Indochinese Peninsula and arrange a setup enabling it to cope with any changes, we feel that Japan will have to widen its options with regard to the Cambodian problem.

Of course, the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the arrangement of a setup for national self-determination are conditions for the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

The new government under Heng Samrin was established simultaneously with the invasion of Cambodia by the Vietnamese troops, but it has not acquired the right to represent itself in international organizations, such as the United Nations. Less than 20 countries recognize the new regime.

However, this does not mean that the Pol Pot regime wields effective rule over all of Cambodia. Even if Deputy Premier Ieng Sary denies rumors of massacres, he cannot obliterate criticisms both within and without Cambodia directed at the excesses of the Pol Pot government.

Deputy Prime Minister Ieng Sary has admitted that the cities, including Phnom Penh, the capital, are in the hands of the new regime and that the leaders of the old regime, including Prime Minister Pol Pot, are not staying at one place but moving around.

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To be sure, the government in Cambodia which Japan has given its nod to is the Pol Pot regime. Aid which Japan has pledged to consider consists chiefly of medical and food supplies sought by Deputy Premier Ieng Sary when he visited Tokyo last autumn. For humanitarian reasons, there can be no opposition to this type of aid.

We would like to know, however, how the aid items are to be transported under the present situation in which the base of the government receiving the assistance and the route to get there are not known.

Under such circumstances, cautious and multilateral considerations are necessary for the extension of aid to Cambodia. It is desirable that Japan's goodwill somehow reach even the residents of populous cities even though they are under the control of the new Heng Samrin government.

We feel that it is better for the Pol Pot regime to increase the number of countries that will give it assistance under the lead of such organizations as the U.N. instead of looking to Japan alone for aid. If giving aid direct to the Pol Pot government is difficult, one way to get around this is to give it to Cambodian refugees taking shelter in Thailand and other neighboring countries.

Of course, aid on humanitarian grounds alone will not resolve Cambodia's problems. To pave the way to get the situation under control by the U.N. or international conferences, it is necessary first to size up the unclear situation in Cambodia with the objective eyes of a third party.

As one of the ways to do so, the dispatch of a survey team to Cambodia by such international organizations as the U.N. should be expedited. The U.N. has sent such teams to various areas torn by disputes before.

With the start of the rainy season on the Indochinese Peninsula, fighting in Cambodia has subsided and a Chinese-Vietnamese vice-foreign ministers' conference is to be resumed shortly. As a proof of enthusiasm for the restoration of peace, we want the new and old regimes of Cambodia as well as related countries to agree to receive such a team.

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

BRIEFS

NATIONAL CONFERENCE--Tokyo, Jun 27, JPS--The Japanese Communist Party convened on June 25 a three-day national conference of prefectural and district chairmen. The purpose is to win a rapid advance in the activities to achieve the goals set for the "two-month (June-July) campaign for great advance with a view to winning victory in the general election," which was decided on by the seventh CC plenum in May. Tetsuzo Fuwa, chief of the secretariat, presented a report on behalf of the standing presidium. His report covered the characteristics of the situation that has developed since the 7th CC plenum, and the present stage of the activities in the "two-month campaign." In the report, Fuwa said that more than 7,300 people newly joined the party between June 1 and 23. He also touched upon major international problems, such as the Tokyo summit of the seven industrial nations, the international theoretical symposium of the communist parties of the developed capitalist countries, to be held in July under the auspices of the JCP, and the campaign for aid to the Cambodian people. Fuwa said that at least part of the delegation which will visit Vietnam and Laos shortly, led by Central Committee chairman Sanzo Nosaka, will visit Cambodia. [Text] [Tokyo JPS in English 0910 GMT 27 Jun 79 OW]

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MILITARY

'AKAHATA' ON POMCUS SYSTEM, U.S.-JAPAN MILITARY COOPERATION

Tokyo JPS in English 0903 GMT 18 Jun 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 18 Jun (JPS)--The Defense Agency began studying the introduction of prepositioned overseas material configured in unit sets (POMCUS) in Japan. POMCUS is being put in force in West Germany by the U.S. forces, and this system is that the ground U.S. force place tanks, armoured vehicles, guns and ammunition in an allied country in advance, and at a time of emergency, only personnel will be air-lifted to that country from the U.S. mainland.

AKAHATA reported this on the front page of its June 17 issue, saying that the Defense Agency's plan is geared to the program of emergency commitment of forces planned by the Carter administration, in readiness of an "emergency" in the Middle East and the North Atlantic.

"The introduction of the system is directly linked with the strengthening of functions of the U.S. military intervention in the northwestern Pacific areas, and this will mark a step for the aggressive strengthening of the U.S.-Japan security treaty, in conjunction with the arrangement of the Japan-U.S. joint operational setup in response to the 'guidelines' for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation," said AKAHATA.

The director general of the Defense Agency, Ganri Yamashita, says that the system is linked with the increase of Japan's share of the costs for the U.S. bases. "The costs for constructing and maintaining such U.S. military facilities burdened by the Japanese side for the first time, and Japan's share in the military costs under the U.S.-Japan security treaty will enter a new stage," AKAHATA said.

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ECONOMIC

SEKAI DISAPPROVES OF U.S. APPROACH TO MUTUAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Tokyo SEKAI in Japanese Jun 79 pp 200-205

[Text] Japan-U.S. negotiations are continuing, with the going still tough on the issue of opening the door of government procurements, even though we have reached the early part of April. The problem will probably come to a critical stage when Prime Minister Ohira visits the United States in May. As a result of the difficulties in the negotiations, top officials of the Nippon Telephone and Telegraph Company [NTT] (Mr. Akigusa, President), which has been made the focus of Japan-U.S. friction, are showing signs of making every effort to preserve in the future the materials procurement and communications capabilities of the new system, including protection of subcontractors, even if this produces further irritation.

However, if the market for NTT communications equipment were opened up, the impact would be very great. Said to be behind the intense U.S. pressure for international competitive bidding for government materials procurement is the basic strategy of IBM, whose ultimate aim is computer sales. If, in the near future, government agencies should purchase computers at several billion yen per unit, the possibility that these sales would fall prey to American-style "secret agreement marketing" and once again lead to structural corruption, as happened in the Grumman-Lockheed incident, cannot be ruled out.

On the other hand, opening the door will not stop with international bidding. It may be seen as providing an opportunity for free competition among this country's own communications equipment makers, and in the worst instance it could plunge the subcontractors, now tied together by vertical links to NTT, into a period of internecine warfare brought on by excessive competition in the development of telephones and other new products.

As a result, the rescuing of small subcontractors and the maintenance of employment would almost certainly surface as social problems, and the government would be plagued with having to find policy responses.

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#### Opening the Door

"Even if we speak of opening the door, what NTT would be able to buy would only be rags and buckets. Even if purchases are made, at most they will probably be on the order of such things as paper for telephone books, material for employee uniforms, or automobiles." These were the words flung back by NTT President Akigusa in response to the Americans' persistent waves of attack.

There is good reason for the United States to press for the opening of government procurement, targetting in upon NTT. The greater portion of NTT's yearly material procurements of over 3 billion dollars (about 600 billion yen) is for communications equipment, the field in which the United States excels as an exporter. However, NTT's yearly procurements from foreign companies are only a little over 3.3 billion yen, or only about 0.5 percent of the total. Moreover, the only foreign procurements purchased through competitive bidding are some telephone and telegraph office measuring instruments and special vehicles, such as snowmobiles used in construction. Absolutely no precision machinery such as computers is included.

For this reason, although the United States has been demanding that the market be opened in various areas, such as the expansion of imports of leather goods and the complete removal of discrimination against foreign banks, it has been fiercely denouncing NTT, which buys virtually no materials abroad, as "the symbol of Japan's closed market." In this connection, the United States is demanding that the government procurements sum used by the government and government-related agencies to buy materials from private sources be opened up, with 12.3 billion dollars for the United States, 10.5 billion for the EC (European Community), and 7.5 billion for Japan. Meeting this demand is impossible, even lumping together all 31 government ministries and agencies, the National Railways Corporation, the Japan Monopoly Corporation, and the Airport Corporation. Thus the NTT, with its vigorous large-scale procurements, was made the centerpiece of the demands made of Japan.

#### Distressed Subcontractors

In response to this, NTT has countered, "The telephone operations of the EC countries either are government run or are public corporations. However, virtually every country uses the private contracting system and not competitive bidding, just as our country does, and they argue that electronic communications equipment is excluded from the areas covered by the provisions of international agreements." NTT has denounced the American attack as one-sided, pointing out that, in particular ATT (American Telephone and Telegraph), the United States' largest telecommunications company, as a private corporation is not only not included in government procurements, but, in its procurement practices, purchases

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the greatest portion of its goods from its wholly owned subsidiary, Western Electric, and the remainder almost entirely by private contract from American domestic firms.

Further, the following are cited as evils of competitive bidding: "Many types of machinery with differing components, structures, and design ideas depending on the manufacturer would be intermingled, bringing about a drastic decrease in the efficiency of maintenance, design, and construction work. Also, problems such as longer lengthening of delivery time and lower quality would occur, and with the electronic communications system in a shambles, the service which people expect could not be maintained." This is part of the contents of a full-page opinion advertisement run in the major national newspapers in mid-February. Sponsoring the ad were the Telecommunications Machine Industry Association (202 companies) and the Telecommunications Cable and Wire Industries Association (115 firms and 9 groups), NTT subcontractor groups. It can be seen from this the degree of concern the subcontractors have shown to international bidding.

#### Japan's Mammoth Firms

Needless to say, NTT is the largest of Japan's giant firms. Using statistics from the end of March 1978 for comparison, NTT had 326,000 employees, including 107 officers, and earnings of 3,403,600,000,000 yen, with profits amounting to 439 billion yen. By contrast, in the equipment industry the behemoth of private firms, Nippon Steel, had 76,000 employees and earnings of 3,326,100,000,000 yen, but profits of only 15.8 billion yen, revealing a great gap. Tokyo Electric, with 39,000 employees, earnings of 1,769,000,000,000 yen, and profits of 147.9 billion yen, was one grade smaller. As for the National Railways, which also is a public corporation, it had 429,000 employees and earnings of 2,369,000,000,000 yen, but rather than profits, it was in the wretched state of having losses of 833.9 billion yen.

NTT has among its subcontractor firms about 150 machinery manufacturers and about 50 wire manufacturers--a total of about 200 firms. It also has about 70 construction trade primary contractors for public telephone circuit network facilities. In construction, if subcontractors and contractors for sub-subcontractors are included, the total reaches 2,000 firms with 100,000 employees. Because of this, retired NTT officials placed in second career positions as officers of affiliated companies are numerous; among them Oki Electric President Masao Mitaku and Nippon Electric managing director Kenji Munakata are shining examples.

In this connection, when we pick out persons in executive positions we find that they amount to a huge number: 2 at Adachi Denki, 1 at Nippon Electric, 3 at Meisei Electric, 2 at Nihon Tsushin Kogyo, 2 at Fujitsu, 5 at Tamura Electric, 4 at Iwasaki Tsushinki, 4 at Kanda Tsushin Kogyo,

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3 at Nakayo Telecommunications, 3 at Oki Electric, 5 at Taiko Electric Works, 3 at Takamisawa Electric Company, 2 at Sumitomo Electric Industries, 2 at Fujikura Cable, 2 at Oki Electric Wire, 11 at Nihon Densetsu, 11 at Daimel Denwa Kogyo, 12 at Kyowa Densetsu, 7 at Toyo Electronics Industry Corporation, and 10 at Tohoku Tsushin Kunsatsu.

The running of a full-page opinion advertisement in the newspapers, with drawings showing cries for "help" coming from telephone receivers filling the page, was a move by Telecommunications Machine Industry Association President Mitaku, the President of Oki Electric, which he coordinated with NTT.

NTT Family Ties

The unity among the NTT leadership which stands at the pinnacle of the "family," especially that of the technical group, is very strong. As might be imagined from the fact that former Chairman Yonezawa, a veteran of the technical field, reigned for nearly 12 years as "Emperor Yonezawa," visits by former employees now serving as officers in affiliated companies to exchange greetings at the annual New Year's party, and toward evening drunken toasts and even bursts of song from the Chief Engineer's Office, are an annual ritual. For this reason, there is an insistence on "100 percentism" in technical areas, and a common front is maintained against "external enemies."

Thus, American demands have been confronted by holding fast to 100 percentism. However, in addition to the evils of competitive bidding brought up in the opinion advertisement, they have continued to appeal for the need for private contracting on the grounds that: (1) if, in order to maintain machine standardization, detailed specifications must be revealed to all bidders, protection of NTT and manufacturers' know-how would become impossible, and the cooperation of manufacturers in technological development could not be obtained; (2) because sufficient investigation of the factories of large numbers of bidders could not be carried out, the high reliability necessary for public electronic communications equipment could not be maintained; (3) a system of long-term supply of equipment for expansion and parts for repairs could not be maintained; (4) inability to plan production would invite an increase in the cost of procurement materials; (5) contract administration for large numbers of bidders would require huge numbers of personnel and large expenditures, and proper implementation of construction budgets would be difficult because of extreme delays in procurement.

These PR tactics succeeded to such an extent that on 23 March in the Directors Meeting of the House of Representatives Communications Committee (Hisao Ishino, Chairman), government and opposition parties unanimously agreed to send a demand to the Foreign, MITI, and Postal Ministers that, "The strong demand of the United States to open the market for NTT

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communications equipment is a matter of great concern. The government should strive to negotiate in good faith in order to obtain the proper understanding of the American side and to preserve the capabilities of the electronic communications network." Chairman Ishino of the Socialist Party defended NTT energetically, saying, "Supposing that international competitive bidding came to 1 billion dollars, that would be one third of NTT materials procurement. That would go right to the heart of the communications equipment and lower its capabilities. It would also bring about chaos among subcontractors and in employment, and labor union problems would arise. We must protect the brains and the technology (know-how) which are the pride of this nation, which is a nation without natural resources. Haven't even British public corporations returned to private contracts?" With the added pressures of the All Japan Telecommunications Workers Union and subcontractor labor unions, at least on this issue an "NTT Joint Struggle" has been established between government and opposition parties.

## American High-Pressure Attitude

Elated by the success of consensus building in the Diet, Chairman Akigusa expounded heatedly to newsmen, "The communications industry has been a closed society industry for 100 years, and it is difficult to understand, but it is a system consisting of financing and firms which form a group along with communications equipment." Picking out a concrete example, he elaborated on his position, saying, "Airplanes and automobiles can be (purchased) from anywhere and ridden in, but, for example, a single Boeing unit is made up of tens, hundreds of precision mechanisms, and even in the case of domestically produced automobiles, a single unit is produced by means of private contracts for several thousand individual parts. Japan's nationwide public telephone circuit network resembles this."

The greatest complaint of NTT is the American "high-pressure sales attitude." Despite the fact that since the company was started 30 years ago the United States had never once asked the company to buy its materials, for over half a year since last fall missions to promote exports to Japan (with Commerce Assistant Undersecretary Weil and others) have come thronging over, besieging this country, and from first to last adopting a high-pressure attitude, as if to say, "We don't understand why you don't buy."

Chairman Akigusa has fiercely denounced the American high-posture stance, saying, "Americans had better devote months and years if they want to sell.... And (The Americans should make specifications in Japanese, not in English. They have no insight and lack common sense. It's nonsense that the Japanese, possible buyers, have to translate them here." It is an unmistakable fact that American "high-pressure selling" has used as grounds for its assault upon NTT the agreement thus far reached in the Tokyo Round that "procurement of government agencies will be as a matter of principle by public bidding, and the door will be open to foreign firms as well."

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However, it appears that lying hidden behind the "high-pressure sales" tactics are complex, deeply rooted factors, such as President Carter's reelection strategy and IBM's conquest of Japan. NTT officials, pointing to the Carter strategy, say, "We understand that Secretary of State Vance and Secretary of Defense Brown, who are mainstays of the Carter administration, came from high positions in IBM, and that there are many men with the same background at the bureau chief level. Also, makers of communications machinery, including makers of Japanese communications machinery, are concentrated in Georgia and California, the American South, which is the President's electoral base. Special Representative Strauss, as well, the Chairman of the Democratic Party Executive Board, is a close confidant of the President's, and will fill the role of campaign manager in the 1980 reelection campaign."

Chairman Akigusa, also, nodding agreement to newsmen's questions, said, "I suspect that the real manipulator is IBM." However, for the United States, whose steel, television, automobile, and shipbuilding markets have been ravaged one after another by Japan, the computer field is the last stronghold. Memories are still fresh of the computer sales battle which developed in China between IBM, the world's largest maker of computers, and Hitachi.

IBM just at this time has delivered a threat to this country's computer industry with the announcement of its new accessory machine type, the "4300 Series." But IBM's assault has been so ferocious that a seemingly plausible explanation is circulating; "NTT is investing on the order of 1 trillion yen to try to connect a computer-stored billing apparatus to an electronic telephone exchange, and the objective of IBM's sales campaign seems to be in that direction."

#### Carter's "Reelection Strategy"

Concerning Carter's strategy, the impression is being transmitted that the President, as part of his maneuvers in Congress, has no choice but to take a stiff attitude toward this country. Cited as evidence for this is the fact that when Kei Sato, Chairman of the LDP Communications Subcommittee, visited the United States in mid-March as head of the Subcommittee Dietmembers' Group and met with President Carter's rival candidate, Connelly, of the Republican Party, Connelly spoke in the strongest terms, stating, "The negotiating stance of the Carter administration is weak in dealing with Japan, even though we have a trade deficit of this size." As for the Carter administration, because the successful mediation of the Middle East peace, and in foreign relations SALT II (Strategic Arms Limitations Talks) and the handling of Japan-U.S. trade frictions, will be tests of achievement for the 1980 reelection campaign, they are vigorously pursuing opening the doors of government procurements.

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NTT is using arguments of national interest to resist this American assault, entangled as it is with the present administration. This is plain in the interpretation of public relations officials that, "In early Meiji, Northern Telegraph, based on European and American capital, tried to cut in on the nation's communications network construction in order to get a grip on this country's communications rights. But the Meiji government turned them away in favor of development using domestic technology, in the interest of the 100-year grand design for the nation, thus preventing colonialization of communications." Perhaps this is something of an exaggeration, but it is probably true that the advanced nations ruled the world on the basis of their armies and their communications. In years past, the advanced nations of Europe and America were engaged in reaching out to colonies by means of military forces and the laying of a network of undersea cables according to the so-called Silverstein plan.

Even setting aside the candid expression of the NTT employee that, "The men of olden times who protected our communications rights were great men," the lesson of history is that the maintenance of private contracts is linked to the development of knowledge-intensive industry, and the national interest arguments loudly asserted by NTT cannot reasonably be ignored.

#### Family Rupture Worries

However, would the opening of the door of government procurements result, in the end, in harming the NTT's "stability, reliability, and maintenance of a highly economic communications network?" From the viewpoint of the public, rather than installing in one's home the NTT cradle-receiver telephones built mainly for durability (costing 5,000 yen), buying for oneself and installing as one wishes the colorful, decorative telephones being marketed 20 to 30 percent cheaper in the United States would produce a more tasteful living environment. If, through competitive international bidding, better items could be obtained more cheaply, it would probably be a plus from the standpoint of the national economy as well.

According to NTT Public Relations Section Chief Iwashita, "Communications instruments are like a sliding screen and its groove; if they do not fit together, there is real trouble. The average number of months between breakdowns for each user is 13 years and 11 months. But if cheap, inferior goods are imported through competitive contracting and the breakdown-free period is cut in half to 7 years, the number of repairmen needed would double from the 130,000 at present, costing an additional 400 billion yen per year in personnel expenses alone, and the economic loss would be enormous." But if there were free competition, this nation's industry ought to be able to stand up to foreign nations with inexpensive, technically superior products.

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What the "NTT family" fears most, I hear, is that the status of firms will be disturbed. That is, if free competition is introduced among the subcontractors which NTT has up until now partitioned off through private contracting into telephone receiver, switchboard, and telephone circuit groups, Hitachi, Nippon Electric, and other large companies might turn their hands to production of telephone receivers, and the subcontracting industry would be plunged into a free-for-all. If oligopolization of the communications machinery production field progresses by the strong preying on the weak, it will become a major social problem.

Complaints are heard in some quarters that, "The government is very interested in oranges, beef, and other things that have an impact upon election votes, but they are trying to sacrifice NTT, which is unrelated to electoral district interests." But might it not be that for NTT, the real menace is not IBM or any such thing, but rather that a rupture might occur in the "NTT family?"

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ECONOMIC

EDITORIAL DECLARES NTT PROBLEM NOT SETTLED, STRESSES RECIPROCITY

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 5 Jun 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Significant Application of Reciprocity"]

[Text] Economic negotiations have finally arrived at agreement regarding liberalization of government procurement by NTT, advanced reduction of Japanese tariffs, tobacco and coal imports and simplification of import investigations and procedures which had been the greatest issues pending between Japan and the United States. This does not, however, mean that all pending matters have been settled; rather, it means that "framework and procedures" for resolving problems have been decided upon. Two points have been established in connection with liberalization of procurement by NTT; i.e., that reciprocity will be applied to mutual market penetration in Japan and the United States and the other major countries and that foreign firms having the highest levels of technology and the most recent know-how will be allowed to participate in research leading to procurement. That "reciprocity" has been established as the basis for future substantive negotiations can, in particular, be greatly appreciated. The phrases "100 percent liberalization" and "mainline telecommunications equipment" upon which the United States had been firmly insisting have been completely eliminated but future developments as well as the question of whether the United States Congress and the protectionist faction can actually be convinced to begin negotiations along this line will require further watching.

In the talks between Japan's Representative for the Tokyo Round (Multilateral Trade Negotiations) Ushiba and the United States President's Special Trade Representative Strauss which were aimed at resolving economic friction between Japan and the United States and which were held in advance of United States President Carter's visit to Japan on the 24th the representatives agreed:

(1) That Japan and the United States will open the doors to government procurement in line with the ideal of reciprocity which will include other nations;

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(2) That details on liberalization of NTT will be worked out in 1980 and in 1984 there will be a review of whether liberalization by both sides is equitable and balanced;

(3) That firms of other nations which have the highest levels of technology and know-how will be allowed to participate in research;

(4) That Japan will advance implementation of the tariff reductions to which Japan agreed in the Tokyo Round; and,

(5) That Japan will simplify its import procedures and will encourage importation of United States coal.

As can be seen from this, the issue of procurement by NTT was not settled. Agreement was reached only on a negotiating procedure for resolving the issue. In line with the agreement, negotiations on detailed substance will be started in July with the end of 1980 as a target date. In 1984 the content of the liberalization will be reviewed and its scope expanded.

The main point of the agreement between the United States and Japan is that the two countries will apply reciprocity in connection with opportunity for market penetration in the field of electronic communications and, moreover, this is to include not only Japan and the United States but the other major countries as well. Up to this point the United States' demand for liberalization of government procurement by NTT has been a steady, firm demand for "100 percent liberalization including mainline communications equipment". Since there has not been a hint of "reciprocity" in U.S. demands up to now, this can probably be called a concession which matches participation in Japan's research and development. There is still concern about moves in the United States Congress in the course of the substantive negotiations but the fact that Japan and the United States have put "the principle of reciprocity" at the foundation of their pending trade negotiations will probably lead to promotion of market liberalization in the countries concerned.

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ECONOMIC

HITACHI PLANS TO DOUBLE COMPUTER SALES IN 5 YEARS

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 23 May 79 p 15

[Text] Hitachi, Ltd. (President Hirokichi Yoshiyama) has decided to strengthen its computer division. The company estimates sales this year of 220 billion yen; the first time the 200 billion yen level has been reached. Moreover, Hitachi has let it be known that preparations are being made to double sales to 450 billion yen by 1983, 5 years from now. Hitachi's rental system, which began in 1971, is the only one in domestic computer manufacturing that will soon celebrate its tenth anniversary in Tokyo. There is a surplus of capital in the rentals and this will be used to improve the soft and hard capabilities of the popular M series and L series computers, thus increasing sales. Having a rival to the IBM E series computer, which is expected to begin sales this summer, Hitachi sees itself capable of increased profits. Moreover, by selling all-purpose machines under its own brand name in the U.S., Hitachi feels it can extend its annual profit rate 12 to 13 percent this year.

At the end of November 1979 Hitachi had a total of 10,295 orders for its computers. The breakdown is:

M series: 654

L series: 1190

Mini-computer: 4025

Office computer: 1280

8000 series: 2141

Old 8000 series: 1005

New series computers especially are continuing to be well received. At the end of this March the following orders had been received:

In the M series:

200H: 5

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180: 80

170: 210

160 II: 210

150: 210

In the L series:

340: 195

330: 195

320: 1175

These figures show that Hitachi has between a 16 and 18 percent share of the domestic computer market. This favorable reception is due in large part to Hitachi's own computer rental system.

This rental system was introduced in 1971. Sales of computers that year were only 60 billion yen. It was decided that it was a good time to get into rentals, which require large amounts of capital. The decision was made especially because, thanks to the strength of electronics as a whole, the company could invest profits from other divisions into computers.

According to Hitachi, beginning in 1974 sales rose to 100 billion yen thanks to the introduction of rentals--and a profit was shown. This trend became established. At the end of 1978 approximately 52 percent of company profits come from rentals. Capital has risen to 300 billion yen. Owing to this, sales throughout Japan's Electronic Computers (JECC) are just 3 percent; the rest are bought up.

By introducing the rental system, Hitachi has established an annual 12 percent growth in profits. In the 1978 fiscal year profits are expected to exceed 190 billion yen. Moreover, the profit picture will be markedly better than other domestic makers. It appears that after-tax profits will exceed 10 billion yen. Last September, in order to strengthen the Systems Engineering (SE) division, including this rental system, Hitachi strove to strengthen its "back-up" organization, which does such things as establish specialized companies for the purpose of expanding SE personnel and accumulating soft know-how.

By means of this strategy, Hitachi aims this year to increase profits about 15 percent over last year to 220 billion yen. And in 1983 its goal is more than 450 billion yen.

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ECONOMIC

MITSUBISHI CHEMICAL JOINS NORWEGIAN YTTRIUM OXIDE VENTURE

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 5 Jun 79 p 5

[Text]

The first joint Norwegian-Japanese industrial project has now been established in Norway, with the giant Mitsubishi Chemical Industries as partner to the small Norwegian company, A.S. Megon Co.

The new company, of which each partner owns 50 percent, has been given the name MCI-Megon A.S., and will further the production of high purity yttrium oxide in which Megon is now engaged just outside the capital city, Oslo.

Megon is one of three companies in the world that has managed to produce yttrium oxide of almost 100 percent purity. The plant now has a capacity of three tons annually, and this is about 20 percent of the world production. New areas of use are expected to double the need in the near future.

High purity yttrium oxide is an advanced chemical product which is used primarily in television screens to produce the red color. In a similar manner, it is used to give a warmer light in fluorescent tubes. It is also used in electronic equipment, in microwave communications, and in laser and X-ray equipment.

Perhaps most interesting is the use to which it will now be put—to reduce car exhaust. A yttrium probe placed at the outer end of the exhaust pipe checks the oxygen content in the exhaust and reports to a small electronic computer that directs the carburetor function and maintains a correct ratio between air and petrol, at all times.

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ECONOMIC

BRIEFS

NIPPON STEEL REORGANIZATION--On 29 June Nippon Steel will effect a company-wide reorganization. The company will be divided into five major divisions: Main office, steel mills, companywide affairs, engineering division, and development division. The engineering division will be set up with a comprehensive headquarters and have its own independent accounting system. [Tokyo NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 5 Jun 79 p 1]

NEW NISSAN DIESEL PLANT--Nissan Diesel Kogyo has decided to advance the date of completion for its new diesel engine plant in Gumma Prefecture by 18 months, rescheduling it for partial operation in October 1980. The necessary paperwork for this has recently been submitted to prefecture authorities and the Gumma office of Tokyo Electric Power. [Tokyo JIDOSHA KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 23 May 79 p 2]

COMPUTER PRICING--A Diet subcommittee interpellation on computer pricing has led to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry summoning Hitachi to a hearing on computer price cuts, particularly such as the 80 percent discount reportedly given the Hokkaido University Computer Center. MITI is concerned that such pricing could impede development of the information industry and invite foreign criticism of "unfair competition." [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 31 May 79 p 1]

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CURRENT LARGE-SCALE RESEARCH FOR THE FUTURE OUTLINED

Parts Manufacture by Laser

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 26 Feb 79 p 3

[Part 7 of 20-item serial: "Large-scale Research, New Generation in the Making"]

[Text] Semiconductors, Gases and Solids

Laser comes in various forms as semiconductor, gas and solid. The semiconductor laser will play the main role in the optical communication and optical information process of the 1980s. The high energy CO<sub>2</sub> gas laser can be used for processing metal and in the laser scalpel expected to be marketed soon.

The laser scalpel, a "trump card" in bloodless surgery, is undergoing research and development as a national project. Research has also begun on the utilization of laser for production of components.

The Dream Universal Production Equipment

The system to make at one stroke mechanical parts from metallic material in many types and in limited quantity is known as the "composite production system for application of ultra-high performance laser." It may be called "a universal production equipment" in which basically shaped material is cut into shape and put together. The machinery to produce basically shaped material, shear and assemble integrates features equal to more than 10 different types of machine tool for each operation. The system will employ laser for cutting, welding and heat processing of metal.

According to Tatsuo Tanaka, a research and development engineer for the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology, "It is a system not found in the present world." Thus, this research and development can be said to pose a challenge to the unknown in many respects.

The initial move involves machinery for basically shaped materials. Machinery to produce parts of all kinds and shapes, such as round ones for wheels and gears, rods, a medium, complex type of about 30 centimeters, a



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small complex type and a sleeve type will be constructed from fiscal 1980-81. The machinery will be programmed to perform the tasks previously conducted by skilled workmen. This will represent the initial step toward automation from fiscal 1981.

Cutting comes next. Supposedly, the time required for cutting is normally about 20-25 percent of total time, with the remainder of time spent for attaching or removing tools or processed goods. After attaching tools, a greater range of tasks can be performed.

Five cells comprise a unit, a tool being installed on every other cell. Revolving up and down and sideways, the cell will polish and make heavy cuts. Work will progress while the position is being automatically calibrated. The thickness of cut will be reduced. As the controls for such operations are rather complex, features for diagnosing malfunctions and insuring accuracy will be integrated. In other words, the aim is to shorten the processing time and achieve a high degree of precision by making the five cells perform either different or identical functions during the cutting and processing run.

Then comes the assembly, with parts arranged in parallel with the cutting operation. Although the existing assembly is done in a line fashion, the new assembly procedure is to stack and press down. To this end, basic experiments are being conducted to achieve accurate positioning and torque.

#### A Great Image Transformation

Looking at it this way, the new system presents a completely different image from machine tools. A vital factor here also is the addition of laser.

For large-scale processing, the CO<sub>2</sub> gas laser will be applied, and a 20-kilowatt (continuous output) class will be developed. Two 50-kilowatt lasers will be constructed, one being used for research into processing and the other as a base unit for hookup to the 20-kilowatt unit.

In the 20-kilowatt class, the laser's emission element alone measures 20 meters in length. Because the length will present a problem at production sites, it will be reduced to 3-5 meters. In this case, thought is being given to 1) increasing the internal gas pressure or 2) reducing the gas pressure to hasten the gas flow. Of these two steps, that suited for a large output will be adopted. Also, for fine processing, 300-watt YAG (solid) lasers and 200-watt argon gas lasers will be developed.

The output (continuous) of the CO<sub>2</sub> gas laser now in use is 1.5 kilowatt and for argon gas, about 20 watts. This indicates how high the goal value is. In high output, the problem is that there is neither a processing method nor calibration method. And domestic parts are scarce.

Imported parts will be used for the 5-kilowatt laser. The coupled window, a vital part which directs 99.95 percent of the laser beam outside, is made

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of dielectric, multilayer filter which, though imported, sometimes develops a crack. For a while, research will be conducted using imported goods, and after completion of studies on window material and the processing method, the results will be integrated into the laser. As regards YAG, the aim is to extend the life of the light source for excitation purposes. As the greater part of the running cost is for replacement of the light source, the aim will be to develop a new light source and to make rods with large diameter and greater range.

Total War in the Coming Fiscal Year

With respect to this project begun in fiscal 1977, research and developer Tanaka says, "With a vastly new theme, the research has just gotten on track. The coming fiscal year will finally bring about a total war." In that fiscal year, experiments and trial manufacture will be undertaken for verification of functions. For example, in simulation of the use of the actual device, three cells will be made in an effort to determine whether the correct position is determinable in the cutting phase. The main body of the 5-kilowatt laser will also go into production.

Last year, a technology research association was formed to serve as a nucleus. Participating firms number 18, as follows:

Basically shaped material:

Aida Engineering, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries,  
Ishikawajima-Harima, Kobe Steel.

Cutting:

Toshiba Machine, Makino (Price), Hitachi Seiki, Yamazaki Machinery Works,  
Yasukawa Electric.

Assembly:

Toyota Machine Works

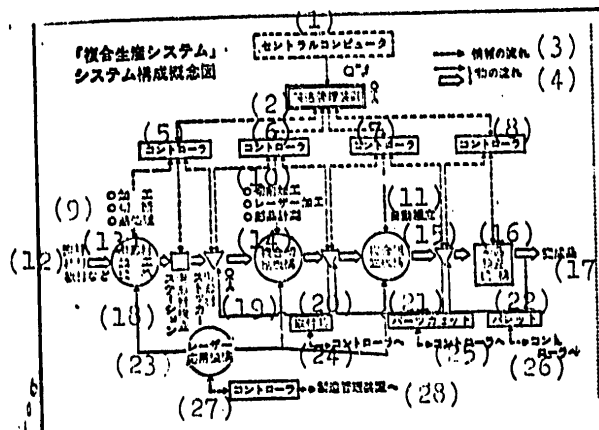
Diagnostic control:

Fujitsu (Fanac), Okuma Machinery Works,  
Shin Nihon Koki, Oki Electric.

Laser:

Mitsubishi Electric, Toshiba, Nippon Electric, Matsushita Giken.

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"Composite Production System"

Diagram of System Concept

Key:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Central computer                                | 14. Composite cutting machinery                  |
| 2. Manufacturing control device                    | 15. Composite assembly machinery                 |
| 3. Flow of information                             | 16. Product inspection machinery                 |
| 4. Flow of material                                | 17. Finished product                             |
| 5-8. Controller                                    | 18. Basically shaped material inspection station |
| 9. Processing                                      | 19. Basically shaped material stacker            |
| 10. Cutting  | 20. Mounting                                     |
| Heat processing                                    | 21. Parts cassette                               |
| 11. Cutting and processing                         | 22. Pallet                                       |
| Laser and processing                               | 23. Laser application machinery                  |
| Parts instrumentation                              | 24-27. To controller                             |
| 12. Automatic assembly                             | 28. To manufacturing control device              |
| 13. Basic material, rods, sheet material, etc.     |  |
| 16. Basically shaped material processing machinery |  |

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### Optical Applications Technology

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 28 Feb 79 p 4

[Part 9 of 20-item serial: "Large-scale Research, New Generation in the Making"]

[Text] Toward "Optical Computers"

Indications are that the long-dreamed-of "optical computer" will become a reality, but that does not mean it will be developed in a few years. The technological development, on which it is based, is to begin from the coming fiscal year, raising the possibility that the desk plan will advance to the design stage.

This technological development is termed "instrumentation control system for optical applications." Its purpose is to gauge, monitor and control by light the information, including images, emitted from a specific area such as an industrial complex or huge plants.

Electronic technology has played a very large role in the transmission of information, speedily and in a vast amount, but that alone will not be satisfactory in the coming age. In other words, under existing electronic technology, the information transmission system (wire communication method) transmits information over communication cable (power line) by current carrying sound and image signals. Its shortcomings include magnetic induction disturbances and susceptibility to heat and water.

#### Hundred Thousandfold Transmission Capacity of Electricity

If, instead of communicable cable and current, glass fiber and light (laser beam) were used, there will be numerous advantages over the wire communication system. In the case of light, there are no magnetic induction disturbances, shorts, sparks or crosstalk.

The use of fibers will insure lightweightness, minuteness, flexibility and water/fire resistancy and, because metal is not used, resources can be conserved. In addition, the transmission capacity of information can be expanded to nearly one hundred thousandfold that of electricity and at greater speed.

At plants such as petrochemical and steel mills with automated, high precision production equipment, there is a growing need for operational information. For example, in 1965, the number of instrumentation points for each unit of blast furnaces was 40, against 1,500 in 1977. For a polyethylene plant, it was an increase from 500 to 6,000. The amount of data required to produce a single automobile also increased from 10,000 to 10 million bits, or a thousandfold boost of information required for control purposes.

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#### Optical Sensors Viewed With Importance

As plants became more advanced, a need arose for a system to swiftly transmit a great volume of information, including images. Under the optical application instrumentation control system, a large-scale project for the coming fiscal year, work will begin in the three distinct fields of information transmission, instrumentation and control. Considered as most important in the system is the optical sensor. Developmental efforts are to begin on such sensors which will sharply detect information on displacement/length, speed and thermal properties. The development of such important elements as optical IC, semiconductor laser, optical fiber and optical repeater will also begin. It is an 8-year program beginning the next fiscal year and costing a total of 20 billion yen.

Currently, research is being conducted at some quarters on an optical application system, which simply involves the substitution of the information transmission portion with light. Basically, it is plain electrotechnology. It makes use of its strong characteristics against optical disturbances, with the constraints of electrotechnology serving as constraints of the entire system.

Under this latest project, the control signal/energy to activate the circuit (such as optical IC) will "all use light." (Usage of electric power as energy is also under consideration.) Light, of course, will be used for transmission of information. In other words, the goal is to develop an "optical system network."

#### 0.1 Micron Precision for Drawings

"To convert an optical IC into monolithic IC, a preciseness of 0.1 micron is required for drawing circuit patterns. And there is a chance that ultra-LSI processing technology can be used," says Tatsuo Tanaka, indicating that advanced product development can probably make use of the technology being developed under national projects.

When this system targeted on large-scale plants begins to operate, cable-sheather fixtures in plants will assume a new mode, and will give rise to broader application as transmission of information to combat fire and crime and pass medical therapy information within huge buildings. It will also contribute to the redevelopment of overpopulated cities, to the establishment of a new information society and a better welfare society.

Moreover, various technology developed here will assume a greater significance as a knowledge intensive industry, and establish a link with "optoelectronics industry" which holds much promise in the future. Presently, the market is estimated at 4 billion yen, but should grow rapidly to the 500 billion/1 trillion yen range, possibly triggering the birth of a new, giant industry.

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Consequently, if high reliability and stability can be realized for lasers, fibers and optical ICs, a link will be established with optical communication and optical computers.

Presently, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation and electric power companies are researching optical applications. And foreign nations such as the United States, England, West Germany, the Soviet Union and Canada are doing likewise, and beginning to get results. The reason for this is that they probably feel that optical application technology is not only the core of future transmission and information processing, but also definitely linked to a new field called optoelectronics.

#### Invitations to Manufacturers in Fall

Manufacturers who will participate in this project is still undetermined. A draft plan is now being prepared by the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology and the Electrotechnical Laboratory. Under the plan, manufacturers will be invited to submit bids in early September, with a deadline of early October, after which the firms will be chosen.

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#### Joint On-line Information System II

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 9 March 79 p 5

[Part 15 of 20-item serial: "Large-scale Research, New Generation in the Making"]

#### [Text] Piles of Information

In recent years, a remarkable "information rush" has occurred even in the field of science and technology. The amount of science and technology information processed by various world agencies in 1977 purportedly reached 2 million cases. How these "piles of information" should be disseminated is an important factor in the future development of science and technology. With the promotion of social development-related projects and the aggravation of pollution, natural resources and energy problems, the proper treatment and utilization of such science and technology information is assuming greater significance. Against that background, the Discussion Group for Promotion of Science and Technology Information (Benzaburo Kato, chairman; Kyowa Hakko chairman), an advisory organ to the Director, Science and Technology Agency, has conceived and is studying a national dissemination system (NIST) for science and technology information.

The Japan Information Center of Science and Technology (abbreviation JICST; Tojiro Nagaoka, chief director), earmarked as the general center for the NIST program, is now busy making plans for expanding science and technology information research services through the on-line information system (JOIS).

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1,300 Units Digested at Terminal

It was back in September 1976 that JICST commenced JOIS services for the first time in Japan. "It was originally developed as an experimental system. But upon providing such services, we found that users placed great hopes in the on-line search, much to our surprise. Now, we are constantly pressured by demands of the users," says Standing Director Airo Narabayashi.

Then followed the JOIS-II concept which started to take shape from fiscal 1978 with a goal of rendering services from January 1981. Under this plan, the demands in fiscal 1985 (for documentary information) will be considered in the system design so that a single electronic computer can search and process 300,000 cases and adequately handle 1,300 units at terminal.

The services now rendered cover six files, including documentary files pertaining to JICST science and engineering. Accumulated documents amount to 6 million files. Even from the amount of accumulations, it can be said to be a large-scale search system. During the initial JOIS-II services, biology and agricultural subjects will be included in the six existing files (science and engineering, chemistry, medicine, toxicology, and domestic clearing with U.S. clearing scheduled to begin in April) to build a complete scientific and technological file for retention in a central processing device, for providing telephonic access to researchers and engineers.

Network Construction Making Steady Progress

For its realization, the Japan Information Center of Science and Technology is now constructing a nationwide network extending from Hokkaido to Kyushu. Two routes are involved: One using a special communication circuit and the other an ordinary telephone circuit (public circuit).

Services utilizing the special communication circuit already embrace the four regions of Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya and Hiroshima. In fiscal 1978, services were scheduled to be extended to four additional cities of Chikuba, Sapporo, Sendai and Kita-Kyushu, but as of now, all except the latter are being served. "Preparations are underway to install exclusive terminal equipment in Kiya-Kyushu, Toyama and Wakamatsu" during fiscal 1979 (Mr Narabayashi). Thus, a nationwide network of on-line information service should be completed soon.

Meanwhile, services employing the public circuit have already begun in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya. Whereas, in a search by special communication circuit, the user must go to a place having a terminal equipment, here, the user can conduct an information search easily by acquiring a small terminal equipment (at 800,000 to 1 million yen) and paying a fee for the telephone circuit. Efforts for qualitative improvement are being made as "future emphasis will be on services through the public circuit." (Hiroshi Nakai, chief, Technical Control Office)

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#### Commenced in Three Cities

Presently, the number of users of JOIS services employing the public circuit is 50 in Tokyo, 30 in Osaka and 20 in Nagoya for a total of 100. In fiscal 1979, "we hope to double it to 200, increase the computers' capacity each year and avoid regional discrepancies in services" (Mr Narabayashi). Thus, the plan is to accelerate the expansion and reinforcement of the nationwide network, with an initial installation of about 1,000 units of small terminal equipment.

JICST maintains a network of about 100 specialists and an outside force of 5,000 to review, summarize and index foreign academic texts and reports. Some 400,000 items are summarized and processed yearly. A quality information system is under development as "these are valuable sources of factual information. There is no reason why they cannot be made use of." (Mr Narabayashi)

As JICST is famed throughout the world as a general information agency on science and engineering, enterprises and other users should find it extremely useful to obtain quality information quickly. If the new data network (DDX) planned by the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation becomes a reality, "its use on JOIS-II is purportedly under consideration." Obviously, the realization of DDX will enhance the functions of the general center for NIST transmissions. By linking the network with universities and professional centers, a broad search service will also become a possibility.

#### Services From 1981

At any rate, it is anticipated that JICST's JOIS-II concept, because of the increase and multiplicity of science and technology information, will advance at a high pitch, aiming at commencement of services in 1981.

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#### Interview With S&T Agency Office

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 20 Mar 79 p 5

[Interview with Science & Technology Agency Planning Office Chief Hiroyuki Osawa, part 20 of 20-item serial: "Large-scale Research, New Generation in the Making"]

[Text] Teamed With Machinery

[Question] In regard to the leading science and technology of the 1980s, what do you think will have a large impact on industry in particular?

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[Answer] I am convinced that microcomputers will be teamed up with machinery, especially during the first half of the 80s. It will take the lead because it will greatly affect industry and livelihood. A somewhat revolutionary feeling is that life science or genetic engineering will also play a role. It relates to the biochemical field, an issue which should come up around the second half of the 80s.

[Question] But a mistake in genetic engineering or bacteria culture would create a great problem. Wouldn't administrative checks on this matter become an important issue in future?

[Answer] Personally, I don't think it will become a problem. There may be some problem in the experimental stage, but there is nothing to fear as it is unlike radiation, and clearcut safety measures are taken. While such a possibility remains from a theoretical viewpoint, I have not given much thought to administrative intervention. But I feel we should not run ahead at this stage and conduct an administrative check. It is imperative that the administrative side effect a close exchange of information with academicians and keep abreast of researches by developing its investigative capabilities.

[Question] What is the science and technology policy of the future, especially with respect to Japan's investments in research and development?

Risks Assumed by the State

[Answer] A financial figure once told me that private enterprises have the money and are aware of the need for technological development. Yet, they cannot find anything sound from the standpoint of technology or marketing. In other words, he was saying that as enterprises had to bear the brunt of the risks, the state should dole out more funds in this respect. This sounded very interesting to us.

The state maintains national experimental laboratories and universities engaged in in-depth research and development, but in technological development, the power of private enterprises is extremely strong, for they not only exert their efforts on making discoveries, but also marketing the products. That power is invaluable. To augment such power, the state would assume the risks; it would cover a part of the private investments in the event of technological development failure, and not in the event of success. A bold idea but, as a whole, it may be a good one if large private capital will become available for research and development.

An example of such an organ is the New Technology Development Corporation. It provides funds for development, which does not have to be repaid if the investment proves unsuccessful. This system can be expanded in future, but state funds would have to be disbursed, provisionally. Compared to my plan, the fund efficiency differs markedly. From the standpoint of immediate availability of private funds, the risk assumption formula is the better.

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Skepticism Over International Cooperation

[Question] Will international technological cooperation become an important issue in the future?

[Answer] I am skeptical about international cooperation. Serious thinking is required. The best example is the European case. As regards technological development, we suffered much on deals with Europe on atomic energy and space matters, which so far have proved unsatisfactory. Computers were a failure even before we started work on them. But things are working out very well with the Joint European Nuclear Research Institute (CERN). In short, dealings on basic matters are acceptable, but international cooperation on major technological development intertwined with business is questionable. It would be better to disburse cash to acquire patents, as in the case of Japan-U.S. technological cooperation on coal liquefaction.

Important To Press for Patent Rights

[Question] Along with international cooperation with leading nations on an equal footing, technical assistance to developing nations has become a great issue. But many nations contend that patents are jointly owned property. How should technical assistance be treated with respect to such nations?

[Answer] It is important to press for patent rights by urging them to become a signatory to the Paris Treaty. Under the Japan-China cooperative setup, participation in the Paris Treaty presents a major issue, but China seems to be preparing to join in the near future. The Science and Technology Agency plans to devote its efforts toward training scientists from developing nations and assisting with research materials. In short, it would be futile to introduce technology without human resources capable of digesting it. The policy will be to assist developing nations to support themselves. We wish to pursue this matter intensively, along with the International Science Exhibition planned for 1985.

Requires Citizens' Interest

[Question] What is the purpose of that exhibition?

[Answer] The people have only a vague notion about the importance of science and technology, so we wish them to take a greater interest in it. The exhibition is to run for 180 days. There are two plans under consideration, since the use of land after the close of the exhibition is as important. The first plan calls for a memorial hall to depict the history of Japan's science and technology, with some kind of a system for preservation of vital scientific and technological materials as in the case of cultural assets. The second deals with construction of a training center with developing nations in mind. It would be built in Chikuba research institute city, where many national, specialized research laboratories are situated. At the center, basic and common topics will be pursued to train the researchers. This would be extremely important for Japan's future technology transfer.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MITI TO ENCOURAGE USE OF SOLAR ENERGY

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 6 Jun 79 p 5

[Text]

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) plans to spread the "solar house" plan across the nation to cope with the growing uncertainties over oil supplies.

MITI says that the long-term plan to popularize the house system is to be designed soon to be incorporated into the alternative energy development schemes being studied by the Natural Resources and Energy Agency.

Major points of the plan will be government financial assistance in and light tax burdens on manufacturers of equipment necessary for the utilization of solar energy.

For instance, the makers will be given a reduction in taxes in accordance with their investments in the field.

As steps to promote construction of solar houses, public show-houses are to be built as models of the solar house system and the institution of a "Solar Day" is being considered.

In announcing the plan, MITI particularly pointed out that this alternative energy development for the welfare of

the public has apparently been treated lightly so far.

More than 20 percent of the nation's total energy consumption is in the housing section. It is unnatural that the only new energy research being spotlighted is for industrial purposes, MITI said.

MITI referred to the U.S. as the most advanced nation in the field of solar house systems. The White House is already equipped with a solar energy hot water supply system.

Furthermore, a special law concerning solar energy use has produced nearly 20,000 solar houses throughout the nation.

France also established last February a Solar Energy Agency to positively tackle the utilization of the unlimited energy source.

Japan, however, is far behind the two nations in this field.

The government appropriated 68 million yen for research and development of in solar energy for the first time in fiscal 1978.

MITI reported that Japan now has some 1,600 solar houses.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

JAPAN'S 'COMPULSORY EDUCATION' IN ROCKET DEVELOPMENT ENDED

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 2 May 79 p 1

[1980's Series Column: "Flying on One's Own Strength: Aircraft and Space Development"]

[Text] Japan's Space Development Program which was initiated in 1955 at Tokyo University's Institute of Industrial Science is about to embark on a road to independent technology. Among the items on the agenda are, first of all, a development of Japan's first liquid oxygen/liquid hydrogen fueled H-1 rocket; and there are a throng of practical satellites scheduled to be launched. These include an oceanic observation satellite (MOS-1), geodetic survey satellite (GS), stationary meteorological satellite-2 (GMS-2), and stationary communications satellite (CS-2). All of these are slated to be autonomous development projects and they demonstrate Japan's entry into a full-scale "space development era."

Space development in Japan thus far has launched a total of 17 man-made satellites including the scientific satellite "Hakucho (Swan)" launched last February by the Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science, Tokyo University, at Uchinoura, Kagoshima Prefecture. Nine are in the scientific field and eight are practical satellites. Among them, we have four stationary satellites. Unlike the United States and the Soviet Union whose purposes include military considerations, Japan's space development focus has been for peaceful use, and yet, the growth has been very rapid. It is perhaps natural then that the overseas reactions have been severe-- "The United States and others are begrudging about providing technology." (Space Development Commission Deputy Chairman Tsuyoshi Amishima)

Compulsory Education Stage Has Been Completed

In rocket development, "we have already completed the compulsory education phase. Now, we have to conduct development by our own strength..." (Space Development Agency Vice President Haruo Suzuki) The overseas-dependent space development is at a turning point.

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Now, the H-1 rocket will enter the scene as Japan's major rocket for the decade following 1985. As a focal point of independent development, it was put into full-scale development in 1979 under the leadership of the National Space Development Agency with the Science and Technology Agency, National Aerospace Laboratory and Tokyo University's Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science participating.

The H-1 rocket will be a three-stage rocket weighing 120 to 200 tons. It will have the ability to launch over 500 kilogram gross weight satellite into stationary orbit at approximately 36,000 kilometers from earth. The goal is to use a 10-ton thrust liquid oxygen/liquid hydrogen engine in the secondary stage and to improve the guidance/control system. Liquid oxygen, liquid hydrogen fuel technology in particular is related to utilization of liquid hydrogen as a clean energy source; thus, various manufacturers are actively interested in its development. "The cost question has been ignored from the very beginning." (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries director and Aircraft/Special Vehicle Operations Headquarters Deputy Chief Kenji Ikeda)

Some 180 Billion Yen for H-1

With regard to the development of H-1 rocket, actual-size rocket test production and testing will commence in 1980. In terms of development cost, 60 billion yen will be spent in the liquid oxygen/liquid hydrogen propellant field; another 60 billion yen is slated for the launch site and ground testing facilities; and 60 billion yen will go to two flight tests scheduled for JFY 1984. Roughly estimated, the total H-1 rocket budget is about 180 billion yen. The major engine parts are being developed under the auspices of the Space Development Agency; turbo-pump and other fuel propellant supply units and gas jet control system are handled by Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries; nozzle, combustor, and second stage tank related items are being developed by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries; third stage solid motor, by Nissan Motor Co; and Nippon Electric Company is handling the computer and other guidance/control related items. The Space Development Agency's approach--assigning various tasks to different manufacturers--is designed to "avoid a single firm monopoly and to let the manufacturers manifest their strength in their respective field of expertise."

Accordingly, a liquid hydrogen pump is being tested at the Space Development Agency's Kakuda Rocket Development Center; and a 10-ton thrust water-cooled combustor is being tested at Mitsubishi Heavy Industry's Tashiro Test Center. Since liquid oxygen/liquid hydrogen engine uses liquid hydrogen as fuel and liquid oxygen as an oxidant, liquid hydrogen must be handled with cryogenic technology (-250° to -260°C) and in the combustion chamber, high temperature technology (below 2000°C) is required. These are the crucial key elements in H-1 rocket development. Mastery of these techniques will have a major ripple effect on industry at large and will also serve as the stepping stone toward the development

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of H-2 rocket technology which will allow manned space flight in the future.

In the meantime, in the field of satellites, Mitsubishi Electric, Toshiba and NEC are in technological competition. The last named company is a leader in this field and has been responsible for putting together scientific satellite systems with strictly domestic technology since the time of Pencil rocket launched by Tokyo University's Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science. At present Japan has four stationary satellites, three of which were launched by the United States. All three satellites themselves are U.S.-Japanese joint productions. The weather satellite "Himawari (Sunflower)" was a product of NEC-Hughes Corporation joint venture. The communications satellite "Sakura (Cherry Blossom)" was a joint effort by Mitsubishi Electric and Ford Aerospace Communications Corporation. The broadcasting satellite "Yuri (Lily)" was a cooperative project between Toshiba and GE Corporation.

Ripple Effects Anticipated

However, the outlook for the 1980's--the practical satellite era--is that "the deciding factor will be how to demonstrate independent technology" (NEC Space Development Division Deputy Chief Ryuzo Kuroda). This may be restated as "how to effectively utilize foreign technology--that is, how to manage the 'give and take,' armed with technology equal to what other countries have to offer." In reality, it is said that NEC has 60 percent of the world's [market] share in ground facilities in space related fields. It holds 30 percent of the world's microwave technology. In addition, it has a monopoly as far as the low noise amplifier semiconductors for communication equipment to be mounted on a satellite is concerned, even in the United States and the developed European countries. Nonetheless, the actuality for the manufacturers is that the work-load for the space development section fluctuates drastically and they treat space development as an investment for the ultra-modern technology which results from it.

In any event, space development in the 1980's will enter a new phase with the United States' space shuttle. Japan's Space Activities Commission's policy is to invest 3.3 trillion yen in the next 15 years for space development which will emanate from the appearance of H-1 rocket and practical satellites. At any rate, the "Rising Sun" rocket holds great promise in the form of various ripple effects to general industry.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMUNITY ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SYSTEM TO START UP

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 2 Jun 79 p 3

[Text] The experimental operation of a home printer system, in which community information is distributed to private homes through a printer connected to a central distributing center, will begin on 4 June in Tokyo's Tama New Town.

The system consists of transmitting facilities made up of a keyboard console and visual display system installed in the central distributing center and a simple printer about the size of a weekly magazine at the home of the subscribers. The transmitter and receiver is linked by a cable.

Starting next Monday, 250 households in the Tama New Town area will be supplied with community news via the printer service system from a distributing center located in the area.

Those taking part in the project will be supplied with information in sales, meetings and the notifications from the local government and other organizations.

Two types of experimental models of printers, both about the size of a weekly magazine, will be used in the text operation.

The information from the distributing center will be printed on a roll of six-centimeter-wide recording paper stored in the printer with characters about the size of those used in newspapers.

The experiment, which will last about one year, has been undertaken by the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry and the Livelihood Visual System Development Association.

Photos show the transmitting facility at the distributing center (above) and a printer installed in subscriber's home (below).

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

STATUS OF ASSEMBLY LINE AUTOMATION SURVEYED

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 1 May 79 p 13

[Text] In order to look into the problems now faced by assembly plants and the way assembly systems will be in the future, the Machinery Promotion Association (chaired by Toshio Doko) carried out a "Survey of Plans and Management of Assembly Systems" and has compiled a report on this survey. The survey was made by distributing survey questionnaires to firms listed on the stock exchange which are concerned with machinery, and analyzing the results of responses from 304 of these plants. This is the second such survey on assembly systems done by the Machinery Promotion Association, and follows a previous survey taken in 1975. The results of the survey include assembly modes, their current state of automation, and future trends. The results also set forth the views of the survey group which played the leading role in this work (Professor Mizaru Kuroda of Aoyama Gakuin University) and attempt to establish the status of assembly systems in the production process.

Seventy-three percent of all factories have adopted an assembly line in their production method. As far as separate types of industry are concerned, there is a high rate of assembly line usage in such industries as transportation machinery, where the figure is 88 percent, and electronic machinery, where the figure is 75 percent. On the other hand, assembly line usage is only 55 percent in general machinery.

In factories which have adopted assembly lines, 12 percent of the lines are for a single type of assembly, 59 percent are changeable assembly types, and 29 percent are mixed assembly lines. On most of the lines, a fixed volume of the same type of product moves through and is assembled. However, within the transportation machinery industry, mixed assembly lines, represented by automobile body assembly lines, account for 54 percent of the lines. On these lines several products are combined in production plans and are appropriately combined in their assembly.

Sixty-nine percent of the plants responding to the survey had made investments aimed at automating their assembly lines, but the percentage varies rather widely from industry to industry. The figure for general machinery was a low 43 percent; precision machinery showed 58 percent; transportation machinery, 75 percent; and then, electronic machinery showed a high 81 percent.

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In response to questions on what this automation consisted of, the answers indicated that (1) 67 percent automated with specialized assembly machinery, (2) 37 percent automated inspection operations, (3) 30 percent automated parts supply, (4) 22 percent automated with general assembly machinery and (5) 4 percent automated their entire assembly operation. Furthermore, when the survey asked how much of all assembly sites have been automated the results showed 34 percent with 5 percent or less automated, 20 percent with 6-10 percent automated, 17 percent with 11-20 percent automated, 17 percent with 21 to 40 percent automated, 5 percent with 51 to 60 percent automated and 6 percent with 60 percent or more automated. This made it clear that more than half of all those responding had less than 10 percent of their assembly lines automated.

Nevertheless, in the questionnaire survey on "Assembly Line Automation" which the Economic Research Institute of the Machinery Promotion Association made in 1975, factories with less than 5 percent automation accounted for more than half of all factories. Consequently, the results of this year's survey show that automation has been increasing yearly. Furthermore, in the 1975 survey the overwhelmingly dominant response regarding the reason for automation was that automation was intended to cope with the shortage of labor. In the results of this year's survey, however, a change can be seen in the purposes for investing in automation over the past several years; i.e., (1) reduction of expenses was a reason for 84 percent of the investments; (2) improvement of quality, 69 percent; (3) increase in production volume, 43 percent; (4) improvement of safety and operating conditions, 43 percent; (5) solving labor shortages, 32 percent.

On the other hand, there are 170 plants which plan to invest in automation in the next 5 years, and these places wish to proceed actively with automation. The chart below results from comparison of 1975 and 1979 figures with future automation rates as foreseen by assembly line managers, with these future investments in automation also being taken into account.

Summary

We list here the views of the survey team regarding the current status of and future trends in assembly lines in addition to results of the survey other than the items mentioned above.

(1) Line operations account for a high percentage of the modes of operation in assembly shops, and in the future the trend will be to change from non-line styles to line methods.

(2) Currently, in plants which have adopted a line mode of operation, a high percentage of the lines switch between assembly of different items; in the future the trend will be toward an increase in mixed assembly lines.

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(3) Automation of assembly plants is increasing slowly; nevertheless, two-thirds of assembly operation are done by hand.

(4) Among the objectives in changing modes of production and other improvements in assembly plants there are many objectives such as coping with diversification of products, reducing manufacturing costs and cutting down lead time; consequently, improvements aimed at increasing production volume have been decreasing.

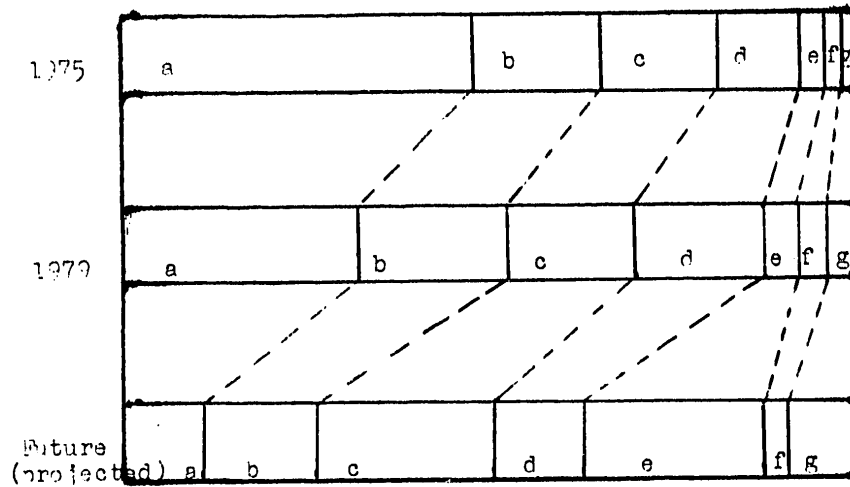
(5) There is a trend toward increased consideration for questions of the humanity of workers, work safety, providing a work environment, etc., in the mind of management.

(6) There are few places where organization of work is done by computer; in most places this is done manually. However, flow charts showing the order of assembly operations and time standards are used in organizing work, and there are many places where basic data is provided.

(7) The number of places which have computerized the scheduling of assembly sites is greater than had been anticipated.

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Ratio of Automated Assembly to Total Assembly Operations (Machine Industry Overall)



- a) 5 percent or less
- b) 6 to 10 percent
- c) 11 to 20 percent
- d) 21 to 40 percent
- e) 41 to 60 percent
- f) 61 to 80 percent
- g) 81 to 100 percent

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BRIEFS

R&D COOPERATION--The Agency of Industrial Science and Technology is starting a 3-year joint research program with Indonesia on development of natural materials as adsorbents for oil spills. Possible candidates include kapok, jute, sisal, coconut, and reed fibers. If a satisfactory adsorbent is developed, it could become a significant export item for Indonesia. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 1 Jun 79 p 1]

BASIC INDUSTRY BREAKTHROUGH STRATEGY--The Ministry of International Trade and Industry is favoring an expanded "breakthrough strategy" for development of new materials and manufacturing technology for the steel, aluminum refining, petrochemicals, and other such industries. Major topics in the strategy are: A. new manufacturing methods: 1. direct reduction steel-making using an HTGR, 2. new aluminum refining technology, 3. new methods to use heavy crude for making synthetic resins and olefins; B. new products: plastic materials and such having new functions, b. new steels able to withstand ultrahigh temperatures, c. new nonferrous alloys able to withstand ultrahigh temperatures; C. improved manufacturing processes: new energy conservation technology for all industries. [Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 18 May 79 p 3]

DIRECT STYRENE PROCESS--The Institute of Physical & Chemical Research has discovered a new reaction process that may be of epochal significance. Benzene and ethylene are reacted in the presence of rhodium metal particles (clusters) amid a small amount of carbon monoxide at 200°C and unspecified pressure to yield quality styrene and diethylketone. Energy and equipment needed for this one-step process are much reduced from conventional methods. The process is applicable to aromatics (includes benzene) and olefins (such as ethylene), so use in fine chemicals production may be possible. Catalyst life and yield of only one styrene and one diethylketone molecule from one benzene and three ethylene molecules are problems in the way of commercialization. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 30 May 79 p 5]

INDUSTRIAL FURNACE INSULATION--Denki Kagaku Kogyo has developed a 95 percent alumina 5 percent silica alumina fiber for use as industrial furnace insulation. The fiber will withstand 1,400 degrees C. Technology for making fiber board of the material has been established. Specifications are: thickness 20 mm, specific gravity 0.15, specific gravity of the

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fiber itself 3.5. Demonstration research on the material is to be undertaken with cooperation from the steel industry, expected to be the biggest user, and the price of the material is expected to be half that of the similar product now being imported from ICI of the UK. [Tokyo NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 30 May 79 p 1]

WIND-POWER GENERATOR--Nihon Furyoku Hatsuden (Japan Wind-power Generator) announced that it is putting into production a 1 to 100 KW vertical axle windmill generator utilizing wind deflectors to obtain efficiencies triple that of conventional vertical axle windmills. The firm has obtained one patent and three design registrations on the device in Japan and intends to apply for patents in Taiwan, Korea, the Philippines, the United States, and elsewhere shortly. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 24 May 79 p 5]

ROK SHIPBUILDING TECHNOLOGY REQUEST--Hyundai Heavy Industries of South Korea has in the past year taken orders from U.S. and Arab shipping companies for a number of container ships, despite competition from European and Japanese shipbuilders. Now Hyundai is finding its ability to build the ships wanting, and has gone to Japanese rivals Kawasaki Heavy Industries and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries requesting high-level technology on container ship design and construction, specifically requesting dispatch of 10 top engineers. The Japanese companies have refused, and the debate on technological cooperation with the ROK is continuing as the Koreans claim that transfer of technology to developing countries is the trend of the times and refusal to do so should not be forthcoming. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Jun 79 p 2]

BRAZIL COOPERATION--MITI's Agency of Industrial Science and Technology will cooperate with Brazil's Industrial Technology Bureau in development of technology for continuous conversion of starchy materials into sugar and production of alcohol. Brazil is interested in using the ethanol produced by mixing it with gasoline, while the AIST regards the program as an opportunity for development of a biological resources conversion system for application in the "Rainbow Project." [Tokyo NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 7 Jun 79 p 1]

AUTOMOTIVE RESEARCH COOPERATION--Nissan Motor and Fuji Heavy Industries in July will start periodic discussions and exchange of information between research divisions at the "top class" level. It appears that a strengthened joint research system to work on new engine development and materials development for weight reduction is currently under study. Some view this as a preliminary to a joint development car. [Tokyo NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 21 Jun 79 p 1]

WURTZILITE BORON CHIP--Nippon Yushi, working with the Tokyo Institute of Technology and subsidized with 375 million yen from the Research Development Corp of Japan, is well along in development of a wurtzilite boron nitride throwaway tool chip. The chip features a long service life in deep, high-speed cutting of difficult to machine steels. Samples of the chip, made by high-pressure [explosive] sintering of wurtzilite boron nitride powder, are

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scheduled to be shipped out by this fall at the latest and the commercial throwaway chip is expected to sell for 15,000 yen each. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 8 Jun 79 p 5]

DIFFUSION WELDING--Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, which has been working on diffusion welding technology since 1967, in December will start in-house and consignment diffusion welding at its Hiroshima shipyard and start sales of diffusion welding equipment. [Tokyo JIDOSHA KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 23 May 79 p 2]

ENERGY-CONSERVING FURNACE--Toho Gasu and two other companies have developed a RX gas furnace capable of energy savings of 30 percent and a high speed heat treatment furnace capable of 85 percent energy savings compared to conventional oil, coal, and LPG-fired furnaces. The furnaces, fired by natural gas, employ a variety of fuel-saving features including ceramic fiber insulation, waste heat recovery equipment, preheating the combustion air, shortened seasoning times, and better furnace seals. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 9 Jun 79 p 6]

DRY DESULFURIZATION--The Federation of Electric Utilities has decided to have Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries, and Hitachi Ltd conduct joint research and development on dry process desulfurization technology for power plants that can be commercialized in the next 2 or 3 years. Factors contributing to the decision are advantages over the wet process of avoiding use of large volumes of water and the smaller bulk (one-fourth the volume) of byproduct and the report by the Comprehensive Energy and Electric Power Survey Delegation earlier dispatched by the Federation that "West Germany appears intent on developing a dry process." [Tokyo NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 7 Jun 79 p 1]

HIGH-TEMPERATURE ELECTRIC WIRE--The Metal Materials Lab at Tohoku University has developed a cheap (10,000 yen per kilogram) insulation cladding for electric wire for use in special motors or magnet coils requiring high tolerance to heat and overloads. Boron siloxane is made from diphenyldichlorosilane plus metal polymer containing boron, coated onto the wire, heat treated at 400 to 600 degrees C, converted to quasi-inorganic form by partial exposure to carbon, oxygen, and hydrogen, and then ceramicized, and can withstand operating temperatures of 500 degrees C and a maximum temperature of 600 degrees C. The material is soluble in tetrahydrofuran and other organic solvents and has good wetting characteristics on copper wire, and the cladding process is easy. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 13 Jun 79 p 1] The metal polymer contains potassium and boron, wire coated with the material withstood a 5-hour test at 900 degrees C, and applications include aircraft and rocket electrical equipment, flame-resistant wire, and high-temperature distribution wiring. [Tokyo NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 13 Jun 79 p 1]

HIGH TEMPERATURE BONDING--Tokushu Muki Zairyo Kenkyusho (Special Inorganic Materials Research Institute) has developed a high-temperature bonding material with 7 kg/mm<sup>2</sup> strength at 1,000°C for bonding gas turbine blades, etc.

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The material, borosiloxane polymer containing certain inorganic compound additive(s), uses diphenyldichlorosilane as the starter material and is heat treated after the additives are added. Tokai Konetsu Kogyo (Tokai High-temperature Industries) has received a contract for research aimed at commercialization. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 21 Jun 79 p 6]

HITACHI COMPUTERS--Hitachi Ltd. opened up a fresh counter-offensive Tuesday against IBM Japan by introducing three new medium-size "M"-series computer systems. Hitachi said the new M-140H, 150H, and 160H feature the latest 64k memories and upgraded software. The principal competitors are, Hitachi said, the IBM 4300 series computer systems, the so-called E-series machines. The maker said the new M series machines outstrip the IBM 4300 machines in performance and price. Hitachi claimed that, for instance, the 160H outperforms the comparable IBM 4341 1.1-1.4 times and the 140H outperforms the comparable IBM 4331 1.6-1.9 times. The Japanese maker said it plans to sell 2,000 units of the new M machines over five years including exports of 200 units. [Text] [Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 7 Jun 79 p 5]

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